

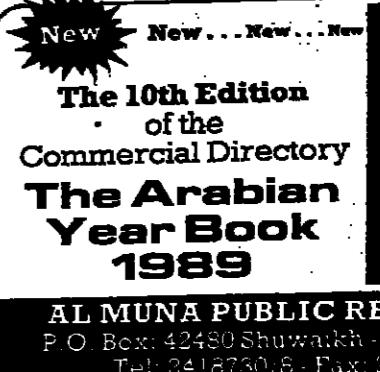
ARAB TIMES



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SHABAN 29, 1409 AH



18 PAGES 150 FILS

Sabah in Syria

Lebanon truce call; 4th week of terror

BEIRUT, April 4. (Agencies): Terrified Lebanese residents, crammed 40 to 50 in basements of shell-battered buildings, today faced the fourth week of a pitiless artillery showdown, pinning their only hopes on an Arab League truce plan.

As shelling resumed with fresh intensity early this afternoon, political sources said an Arab League committee, trying to arrange a ceasefire, planned to ask Army commander Major General Michel Aoun to end a sea blockade of ports which sparked the violence and propose a two-month truce.

The committee would also ask Syria's Muslim and leftist allies to lift their siege of the Christian enclave, controlled by Aoun's men.

The sound of shelling echoed across the capital for the 22nd day of violence which started after Aoun imposed the blockade. It has now engulfed one third of Lebanon in the worst artillery bombardment in 14 years of civil war in a confrontation which has dwarfed most earlier fighting.

After a night of savage bombardment when thousands of shells blasted more than 100 areas in the capital, the mountains and the Syrian-held east Bekaa, shelling eased briefly.

A few shells hit Christian areas in Beirut and Druze mountains to the southeast but fighting later intensified with shells hitting Christian coastal areas north of Beirut and others slamming into West Beirut residential areas close to the "green line" border dividing the capital.

Since March 14, at least 123 people have been killed and 473 wounded in the fighting pitting Syrian gunmen and their local Muslim allies against mainly Christian troops. Most of the casualties were civilians.

"People are living in shelters all day and night long... 40 or 50 people together," another resident said.

Nearly 1,000 residents yesterday and today managed to flee the blitzed capital, taking a ferry to Cyprus from the port of Jounieh.

"Save the babies, save the babies," screamed the head nurse, as shells burst near her hospital in East Beirut.

Nurses dashed for the children's ward on the third floor, scooped up 40 infants and dived for the shelter.

Minutes later three shells slammed into the hospital turning the ward to rubble.

Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed who heads the Arab League committee arrived in Damascus tonight for talks with Syrian officials on the situation in Lebanon.

The league's secretary-general (Continued on Page 2 Col. 5)

Maltese ship missing in Gulf

BAHRAIN, April 4. (Reuter): A Maltese-registered freighter bound for Bombay has been reported missing in the Gulf, shipping sources said today.

They said the 2,958-tonne Rahim Three left Doha in the central Gulf with a full load of scrap metal last Thursday but failed to appear in the Emirate of Fujairah for bunker fuel as scheduled on April 1.



Captured

One of the SWAPO guerrillas held by Namibian police faces the press. (Reuter wirephoto)

See Fighting pages 2



Survivor

A Vietnamese boy, Do Hoi, 14, relates from the hospital bed how he survived a pirate attack on the boat carrying 58 people on Monday. That pirates killed scores of Vietnamese refugees and abducted women and children last Sunday from a boat headed for Malaysia. (Reuter wirephoto)

Mama mia! A Marcos mummy

MANILA, April 4. (Agencies): The wife of ousted Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos plans to embalm her ailing husband upon his death and keep his body on display in Hawaii until she can scatter his ashes over the Philippines to "fertilise his country," a Manila newspaper reported today.

"Not only will it be a political statement, it will be a spectacle—an international spectacle to have Marcos (in state) here," Imelda Marcos told the Businessworld in an interview at the Marcoses' Honolulu home over the weekend.

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آن کے رارو صفحات میں
○ جال آباد کی لائی میں
صور حال گئی ہوئی
○ ہم خوش گام پر ایسا
جائے گا، یہی
کہت ہیں کام کرے
والوں پر گل کئے کام کاں

WEATHER

CLOUDY weather continues with light variable changing to moderate north-easterly wind.
Surface: slight to moderate
High water: 11.00 am, 11.00 pm
Low water: 5.00 am, 5.00 pm
Sunrise: 5.33 am
Sunset: 6.09 pm
Maximum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 25°C 77°F
Fallaka: 24°C 75°F
Minimum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 13°C 55°F
Ahmadi: 16°C 61°F
Fallaka: 15°C 59°F
Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 37 per cent
Ahmadi: 37 per cent
Fallaka: 63 per cent

Saudi-Egypt highway link

CARDO, April 4. (KUNA): Egypt and Saudi Arabia have agreed to link the two countries by a highway that would include the construction of a causeway over the Gulf of Aqaba, according to press reports.

The reports said the project was thoroughly discussed by senior Saudi and Egyptian officials during a recent visit to Egypt by Saudi King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz. There was a reference to the highway in the joint communiqué issued at the end of the visit.

Benazir vows to follow father in helping poor

GARHI KHUDA BUKHSH, Pakistan, April 4. (Reuter): Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto today pledged to follow the humanitarian mission of her father Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the 10th anniversary of his execution.

She told a crowd estimated by police to number at least 100,000 at his tomb that she would follow his example in working to better the lot of the poor.

Kuwait may tax unfruitful expats

Development expenditure to increase

By Mahmoud Abedin

KUWAIT may impose taxes on unproductive expatriates to stop the misuse of manpower in the country, Minister of Planning Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi said yesterday.

In an exclusive interview with the Arab Times' Al Seyassah, he stressed that Kuwait will continue to bring productive manpower as the country is in need of their services.

"No taxes will be imposed on the productive expatriates," he added.

He said that the main reason for imposing charges and fees on some services is not to increase the state income, but to rationalise its use.

Commenting on the main features of the next budget, Awadi said: "Public expenditure will be concentrated on development projects and those sectors which support these projects." Allocations on development and investment projects in the coming budget are estimated at KD600 million, he said.

Awadi emphasised that the state will not attempt to reduce expenditure in the development sector. "We will increase expenditure in the development sector and reduce it in other sectors" he said.

Demography

Awadi said that the state policy of amending the demographic structure in Kuwait is primarily meant to improve the capabilities of Kuwaitis and utilise their resources to be followed by encouraging productive expatriates required in economic development. This policy is also intended to address the issue of unproductive expatriates, he said.

To achieve this goal, greater attention must be paid to training programmes, wider use of mechanisation and modern technology, the official said.

The minister disclosed that the authorities are seriously studying measures to encourage the private sector to employ Kuwaiti manpower. This involves the private sector employing the largest number of Kuwaitis possible.

The private sector is required to shoulder its responsibilities in bearing part of the high costs the government is paying towards manpower. The private sector has now to take a more responsible outlook towards this important issue. If it does, the private sector can well contribute to the plan of reducing unproductive expatriate manpower by employing nationals, Awadi said.

The planning minister said that Arab manpower in Kuwait comes next to Kuwaitis in consideration of priority. Common features in traditions, religion, language and other are positive factors towards opting for Arab manpower over other expatriates both at the government and private sector levels.

Diversification

The issue of diversification of Kuwait's sources of income has become one of the main directives in Kuwait's economic policy, he said. This policy is mainly aimed at reducing the country's dependence on only one source — oil, Awadi said.

"This goal can be achieved by prompting industry, Kuwait's investments abroad and by adopting developmental plans. Ideally, this policy should centre in the fields of food, security, agriculture, productive industry and financial markets," Awadi said.

Regarding the hectic activities currently underway in the field of administrative reforms, the official said that it must be understood that there can be no development without sound management.

Reports on implementation of the first ever five-year-plan in Kuwait indicate that government departments are committed to the objectives of the plan within the first three years, Awadi concluded.

Halt wasteful spending Not a too tight budget

KUWAIT, April 4. (KUNA): Finance Minister Jassem Mohammed Al Khorafi has said that the government is not yet contemplating a tight-budget, but he cautioned the public and government institutions against wasteful spending.

Khorafi emphasised that public services would remain untouched, and said rational spending would be of great help to the government.

The finance minister, who made the remarks in an interview to be published on Friday in a Kuwaiti weekly magazine, said doors were open for employment in the government sectors, but he noted that more opportunities were being made available to Kuwaitis.

Kuwaiti employees in the government have increased in number from 32 per cent to 44 per cent "which is an excellent ratio," the minister said, adding that the trend is gaining momentum.

Non-Kuwaitis are also being employed, according to certain criteria, he said.

Khorafi replied negatively when asked if he thought withdrawing government housing would create a crisis. He argued that the number of landlords contracted by the government was not so big as to cause serious problems in the event that cancellation of government housing is adopted.



Train crash

A rescue worker near two carriages of a commuter train which jumped the low-level platform and smashed into a row of buildings housing the bar, restaurant and ticket office at the San Severo station, Italy. Eight people were killed and 17 injured in the crash. (Reuter wirephoto)

Afghan refugees need security to return home

By Diane Diaz
Arab Times staff

MILLIONS of Afghan refugees will not be able to return to their homeland unless humanitarian aid is available to provide them with a sense of security, a top UN official said yesterday.

"They needed security in terms of food and they need security from the danger of landmines," said Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, the UN fundraising co-ordinator for Afghanistan.

The UN official made his comments on the internationally broadcast programme "Worldnet Dialogue."

The one-hour, 20-minute programme featured Aga Khan and Kenneth Bleakley of the US Department of State, making pleas for donations to be used by the UN for the resettlement of the Afghan refugees.

See Rebels rap US

Page 5

During the show, the two men fielded questions on Afghanistan from panel members in Kuwait, Riyadh, London, Paris, The Hague and Oslo.

The United Nations is trying to raise \$2 billion in cash and other forms of humanitarian aid so that it can implement a two-phase assistance programme.

The first phase would encompass general relief and repatriation of the refugees. That part of the programme would cost about \$1 billion over 18 months.

The second phase of the assistance programme would concentrate on rebuilding the Afghan infrastructure and clearing thousands of landmines that are still hidden on Afghan soil.

When questioned about the likelihood of refugees returning to Afghanistan while the conflict still rages, Aga Khan acknowledged that vast numbers will probably not venture back until they sense stability.

See Rebels rap US

Page 5

Shamir to resist call for peace conference

NEW YORK, April 4. (Reuter): Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said today Israel would resist US pressure to attend an international peace conference on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

"I'm immune to pressure," the 73-year-old Israeli leader told reporters flying with him from Tel Aviv to the United States for a 10-day visit that includes talks in Washington this week on breaking the Middle East peace deadlock.

Aides said Shamir was annoyed yesterday, the eve of his departure for the US, when President Bush cautiously endorsed convening an UN-sponsored international peace conference on the Middle East.

"A peace conference is a way to dictate to Israel to accept what no Israeli is willing to accept," said Shamir, who got a measure of backing as a public opinion poll showed he has gained in popularity over the past year.

The hardline premier views a peace conference — attended by the superpowers and Britain, China and France — as an Arab plot to force Israel to accept a Palestinian state in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip that would threaten Israel's existence.

Bush said after meeting Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak yesterday: "A properly structured international conference could play a useful role at an appropriate time." Hesaid Israel should end its occupation of Arab lands.

An international conference is favoured by the PLO, which began a dialogue with the US nearly four months ago after recognising Israel and renouncing terrorism.

PLO chairman Yasser Arafat's chief adviser has welcomed the call by Bush for a "properly structured" conference and an Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza Strip as an "important and serious development."

Shamir thought he had squelched the conference idea when it was raised by the Reagan administration, but he denied its resurrection meant a crisis with Washington, Israel's closest ally and supplier of \$3 billion in annual aid.

Shamir will meet Bush on Thursday.

The 10-week-old Bush administration, concerned by news films of Israeli soldiers firing on stone-throwing Palestinians in the occupied territories, has urged Shamir to offer new ideas on ending the Middle East stalemate.

Bush is also to meet Jordan's King Hussein later this month.

Washington has urged Israel and the PLO to take steps to ease tensions in the territories. Security sources in Israel said today the Army would free hundreds of prisoners during Shamir's US visit.

Bush ended his one-hour White House meeting with Mubarak yesterday. Bush said: "Egypt and the United States share the goals of security for Israel, the end of the occupation and the achievement of Palestinian self-government."

As he ended his one-hour

White House meeting with Mubarak yesterday, Bush said: "Egypt and the United States share the goals of security for Israel, the end of the occupation and the achievement of Palestinian self-government."

But Palestinian activities forecast an escalation of violence in the territories, home to 1.7 million Palestinians, to send a message to Bush that the uprising would continue.

Israeli troops shot and wounded nine Palestinian youths Tuesday, two of them seriously, in five separate clashes that erupted in the occupied West Bank, Arab news reports said.

Mubarak (left) and Bush share a light moment. (Reuter wirephoto)

report alleging that Libyan-backed groups were plotting attacks on US targets.

International news agencies this morning quoted the American CBS television network as claiming the alleged attacks would be in revenge for US air strikes on the Libyan cities of Tripoli and Benghazi in April, 1986.

Libya and the United States locked horns last year too when American jet fighters downed two Libyan warplanes and American reports later clearly indicated that the US attack was unprovoked.



Goals

INTERNATIONAL

Give up weapons for cash: Colombo

COLOMBO, April 4. (Agencies): The government yesterday offered money to Sinhalese and Tamil militants for every weapon they surrendered, in an effort to end six years of ethnic violence that has claimed more than 12,500 lives, a government communiqué said.

The cash offer followed a peace package offered Saturday by President Ranasinghe Premadasa, that included unconditional amnesty and seats in Parliament.

A Defence Ministry statement said automatic weapons would be exchanged for the rupee equivalent of \$1,000 and semi-automatic repeater shotguns for \$300.

It said \$30 would be paid for any form of gelignite (a blasting explosive) and one kilogramme (2.2 pounds) of explosives.

Foreign Minister Ranjan Wijerama said earlier yesterday that the government would set up six or seven reception centres in each of the country's 25 districts to receive radicals who were willing to give up their weapons.

He told a meeting of newspaper editors that neither Tamil rebels nor Sinhalese extremists had yet responded to the peace proposal, but there was no time frame for them to reply.

The offer was received critically by some legislators.

"The President (earlier) offered the militants only peace and security. Now he is offering them money. I don't think it will work," said an opposition Sinhalese lawmaker who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Meanwhile, a former Tamil rebel group, which won the most number of seats in the North and East, today said it fears the present Indian military operation in the north-eastern Mullaitivu district will diminish whatever chance left for a peaceful solution to the Tamil ethnic conflict.

Velupillai Balakumar, leader of the Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students (EROS) told KUNA in Colombo that the extremist Tamil Tiger rebels, against whom the operation has been launched, have hardened their attitude following the offensive.

"Following the intensity and insensitivity of the operation, now they (the Tigers) want a total withdrawal of the Indian troops before anything else follows," Balakumar said.

EROS demands that all Tamil political prisoners currently held in detention should be released and a constitutional amendment which requires all lawmakers disavow separatism to be repealed.

"Government officials have promised us of speedy action on the prisoners matter," Balakumar said.

Reagan designated North, quoted Casey

WASHINGTON, April 4. (AP): A witness yesterday quoted the late CIA director William Casey as saying former President Reagan designated Oliver North to handle military needs for Nicaraguan rebels in the event of a congressional ban on official US aid.

Vincent Cannistraro, a defence witness in North's Iran-Contra trial, said Casey made the statement in the spring of 1984 during a meeting attended by CIA official Duane Clarridge, the CIA station chief in Costa Rica, Joseph Fernandez, and a leader of the Nicaraguan rebels, known as Contras. The Contra leader was not identified.

Indian opposition walks out

Release of Thakkar report in full rejected

NEW DELHI, April 4. (Agencies): The ruling Congress (I) Party today crushed opposition demands for the release of all sections of a report that implicates an aide of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in her 1984 slaying, sparking verbal duels and walkouts in parliament.

Heated arguments flared in both houses of the legislature during protests prompted by a decision yesterday by Lower House Speaker Balram Jakhar that the government did not have to reveal all the findings of a commission of inquiry into the assassination by M.P. Thakkar, a document that had been suppressed on national security grounds.

The walkout occurred in the upper house, while in the lower house, an opposition move to invite legal opinion on what constituted the full report was

rejected when ruling Congress Party members voted against the proposal.

Jakhar ruled that the government had fulfilled its obligations by showing the main sections and was not bound to show the withheld sections, but the opposition today pressed on with their demands that the entire report be released if there is to be any verdict on Dhawan.

Members in the Lok Sabha, called for Attorney General K. Parasuram to be summoned so the highest-ranking legal adviser could explain why he had recommended that the prohibited sections remain suppressed.

However, their motion was squashed during a vote in the house, where Rajiv's Congress (I) Party holds a massive majority.



While swimming through the oil covered water in the Port of Valdez, a sea otter snacks on some clams. (Reuter wirephoto)

Danger of oil spill in Rhine is over

Birds die in Alaska

WIESBADEN, West Germany, April 4. (Agencies): Salvage crews yesterday towed a badly damaged oil tanker into port after it ran aground in the Rhine river and officials said any danger of a major oil spill was over.

Workers pumped 150 metric tons (165 tons) of fuel oil out of the vessel Rhinetank 24 and towed it to Oppenheim harbour where the remainder of the load was being pumped out, according to the water protection police.

It was later dislodged from the wall, but it was badly damaged.

In another incident, thousands of birds and untold number of sea otters have died since more than 11 million gallons of Alaska crude oil gushed out of the tanker Exxon Valdez March 24 — fouling an area bigger than the state of Rhode Island by yesterday.

sed now that the ship was in a protected harbour.

"The danger is over of any big oil spill," said an official at the water protection police.

The vessel ran aground on an underwater stone wall near the city of Oppenheim, about 40 kilometres (25 miles) southwest of Frankfurt, at 4 am (0200 GMT) Monday, according to the water protection police.

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"I wouldn't think it's constructive to go back to exercising a little bit of ritual mutual propagandistic accusations," Soviet official Andrei Grachov said last evening on ITN Channel 4 news. Grachov, deputy head of the Communist Party central committee's international relations department is in London in preparation for the Soviet President's visit April 5 to 7.

"I thought we left already behind the time of allegations about the Soviet bear menacing Western Europe," Grachov said of Howe's statement.

Earlier, Howe and Defence Secretary George Younger said in a joint statement that Western unity and strength had brought about Soviet arms reduction overtures.

Meanwhile Cuba and the Soviet Union seal 30 years of close but sometimes uneasy alliance today.

Gorbachev will sign a treaty of friendship and co-operation with President Fidel Castro intended to show the world that unity prevails between the two communist allies although they have chosen different roads to solve their economic and social problems.

The two leaders' first round of talks yesterday centred on Latin America's problems and a Soviet spokesman said they agreed its huge foreign debt of \$420 billion to industrialised nations amounted to "effective robbery".

Castro contends that the developing world's external debt is unpayable and should be written off but Soviet spokesman Gennady Gerasimov gave no indication if that drastic view was shared by Gorbachev.

Police detained more than 400 student radicals in Seoul today while breaking up rallies and street demonstrations supporting Moon's visit to North Korea.

In Warsaw, negotiators were seeking ways to overcome the disagreement with the official trade union alliance Opzz over linking wage increases to the inflation rate. The dispute emerged earlier today, threatening to scuttle agreements on economic and political reforms reached during two months of talks between Solidarity and authorities.

A spokesman in Warsaw's office in Gdansk confirmed he had gone home and said Walesa would return to Warsaw tomorrow morning.

But the Solidarity leader's sudden departure from the capital appeared to cast doubt on the possibility of concluding a historic reform agreement with authorities tomorrow, as originally planned.

Gorbachev to visit UK

'Soviets trying to deceive West'

LONDON, April 4. (Agencies): Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe said yesterday on the eve of the 40th anniversary of NATO, that the Soviet Union is trying to deceive Western public opinion into supporting it while the Red Army looms over Europe.

Howe made the comments in a television interview in the same programme, former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger said Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev appeared to be trying to "disarm Western Europe."

The renewed expressions of fear about the effect of the so-called "Gorbachev charm factor" on Western voters and NATO cohesion came two days before the Soviet President is scheduled to visit Britain.

"It is interesting to see the way in which the Soviet Union (is) constantly seeking to beguile public opinion by throwing something else into the pot," Howe said on the BBC's "Panorama" current affairs programme.

Despite Gorbachev's announcement last December of plans to reduce the Soviet Army by 500,000 troops, Howe said, "the thing that still looms large over the European continent is this huge bear of a Russian Army, a tremendously well-armed, massive Army, well-stocked with tanks and artillery."

Kissinger, referring to Gorbachev's reform policies, said he thought the Soviet Union's "secret dream" was to get the benefit of Western Europe's economic strength "for the reconstruction of the Soviet Union ... but at the same time to disarm Western Europe."

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Fighting rages in Namibia

190 killed in clashes

WINDHOEK, Namibia, April 4. (Agencies): South African-backed forces operating under virtually no UN supervision pursued SWAPO guerrillas in northern Namibia today, pushing the death toll in four days of fighting to 190 as diplomatic efforts to end the bloodletting and save the territory's independence plan intensified.

SWAPO guerrilla leader Sam Nujoma branded UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar's report on the fighting as incorrect and "one-sided" and said the situation in northern Namibia had deteriorated into a "full-scale war."

As senior UN officials gathered in the Angolan capital of Luanda in a frantic search for a way of ending the fighting, Nujoma met with ambassadors in Zimbabwe representing the five permanent members of the Security Council.

Nujoma told reporters he asked the diplomats to press the council of sending the full complement of UN peacekeeping forces to the territory immediately as the first step toward restoring peace and putting UN Security Council Resolution 433 back on track.

He denied any SWAPO guerrillas had entered Namibia since the independence plan went into effect on Saturday and rejected Perez de Cuellar's account in which he is reported to have acknowledged SWAPO incursions from Angola but without "hostile intent."

"That statement is incorrect because the secretary-general's representatives in Namibia (Marti Ahtisaari), only got a report from the South African side and therefore the secretary-general's statement is one-sided," Nujoma said.

The UN sources said the secretary-general's report to the Security Council, delivered orally last evening, did not blame either side for what resulted in one of the bloodiest battles in SWAPO's long campaign for Namibian independence.

Bursts of automatic gunfire could clearly be heard at night and troops laid down artillery fire and lit the sky with flares after reports of a planned advance by SWAPO guerrillas.

Helicopter gunships ranged across the sky, seeking out SWAPO ambushes, and armoured cars and supply convoys threw up huge columns of white dust along the normally quiet roads.

Marti Ahtisaari, the head of the international force of peacekeepers in the territory, travelled



Namibian police display weapons allegedly captured from SWAPO guerrillas during heavy fighting. (Reuter wirephoto)

150,000 children die each year

UNITED NATIONS, April 4. (Reuter): About 150,000 children in southern Africa die each year because of the effects of conflict, particularly in Angola and Mozambique, according to a report published today under the auspices of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF).

"By 1988, the number of Angolan and Mozambican children under the age of five whose lives were lost as a consequence of war and destabilisation totalled more people than were killed by atomic bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki."

"The toll is still rising and will not fall until the conflicts have ceased," it said, alluding to insurrections backed at various times by South Africa against those countries' Marxist governments.

The report, titled "Children on the Front Line: The Impact of Apartheid, Destabilisation and Warfare on children in Southern and South Africa," was drafted for UNICEF by eight experts on economic, medical and political aspects of the region.

to the battle zone amid growing accusations that the UN was at least partly to blame for the vicious flare-up in the 23-year-old war between SWAPO and the South African-led security forces.

Marrack Goulding, the head of UN peacekeeping forces around the world, was due in the Angolan capital Luanda to discuss how to end the fighting with the Angolans and leaders of the SWAPO guerrillas.

"The idea is to arrange a ceasefire," Colonel Michael Moriarty of UNTAG said.

A police spokesman said 171 guerrillas and 19 police had been killed at a jungle airport, the day a formal ceasefire came into effect as part of the UN peace plan.

States. Rebu was accompanied by his wife and four children.

Independent Radio Haiti Inter said rebel units of the Leopards battalion withdrew last night from the Port-au-Prince airport, but the airport remained closed. Schools also were closed for a second day.

The government did not explain why the three officers were freed, but the move was clearly meant to defuse resistance within the Leopards battalion. Rebellious members of the battalion had demanded that authorities free Rebu.

US embassy spokeswoman Susan Clyde said the rebels did not appear a serious threat to April. "I don't think April will be ousted," she said. "The event was resolved."

Last night, Presidential Guardsmen in tanks battled Leopards commandos on a main thoroughfare between the airport and downtown Port-au-Prince.

Bingo Day 2

86 72 40 9

Haiti Army rebels return to barracks

Commanders freed

PONT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti, April 4. (AP): The government said today it freed three military commanders arrested after Sunday's failed coup attempt, and mutinous soldiers reportedly surrendered control of the capital's airport and returned to their barracks.

State television announced Lt. Col. Himmner Rebu, commander of the Leopards battalion: Col. Philippe Biamby; and Col. Leonce Qualo were given safe passage to the United States. Biamby was commander of the Presidential Guard.

Rebu had been accused of leading Sunday's attempt to overthrow the government of Lt. Gen. Prosper Avril. At least four mutinous soldiers were reportedly killed yesterday in skirmishes with troops loyal to Avril.

A government communiqué today said Rebu, Biamby and Qualo were escorted to the border of the Dominican Republic last night to get a flight to an undisclosed city in the United

drive to Gdansk immediately after a 10-hour meeting with Interior Minister Czeslaw Kiszczak ended at 2 am.

The Solidarity leader had been expected to stay in Warsaw today for further talks with Kiszczak, state-controlled radio reported at midday the talks had resumed.

"All I can say is that the talks are to be continued," Ryszard Straus of the government press office said when asked about the developments. A government news conference scheduled for today was cancelled.

Pamella leaves Hong Kong hospital

HONG KONG, April 4. (Reuter): Pamella Bordes, the woman said by the British press to be involved in a House of Commons sex scandal, walked out of a Hong Kong hospital before dawn today, a hospital spokesman said.

"She left without a doctor's discharge and at her own discretion at the early morning hours," Wayne Woodhams, of the Adventist Hospital said.

He said she left about 4.30 am after being admitted on Sunday afternoon following a motorcycle accident in Indonesia, where her lawyer said she had fled to escape the British tabloid press.

Woodhams said he was not told of her destination or current whereabouts.

US acts to battle terrorism in sky

More Boeing defects found

WASHINGTON, April 4, (AP): The United States has announced new measures to combat sky terrorism as relatives of passengers killed in the Pan Am Flight 103 explosion complained about aviation security and the government's "lack of compassion."

US Transportation Secretary Samuel Skinner told a news conference Monday that airlines will be required to install devices to detect plastic explosives in major US and foreign airports. Skinner and US President George Bush met with several relatives of those killed when the jetliner exploded over Scotland.

Relatives of victims in the December 21 explosion, which has been blamed on a plastic device hidden in a radio-cassette player, praised Bush for concern shown in the meeting and said Skinner's announcement was a good first step.

Skinner said he would recommend against a coordinated congressional inquiry, although Bush told the relatives he would consider pressing for such a probe instead of several separate congressional investigations.

Skinner said the FBI and Scotland Yard were best qualified to conduct the criminal investigation. He also disputed suggestions that government response to the explosion has been inadequate.

The transportation secretary, in his announcement, also ordered airlines to acknowledge all Federal Aviation Administration security bulletins within 24 hours. He said compliance would be mandatory.

Such bulletins tell airlines of possible threats, and sometimes recommend steps that can be taken to avert them. In the past, such recommendations generally have been advisory.

Skinner said the government would help negotiate for the installation in foreign airports of the latest thermal neutron analysis equipment — which can detect plastic explosives. But he said airlines would have to pay the cost, estimated at up to 100 million or more to cover major airports.

Skinner gave no timetable for installing the devices. An FAA official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said it could take years to get all of the units installed.

The government has plans to install six such devices, which cost nearly one million dollars each, in various airports before the end of the year. Skinner said cost of the equipment likely would add between 20 cents and a dollar to each airline ticket.

Additional FAA security specialists were being sent to the busiest US and foreign airports to aid in surveillance. Skinner said. He also announced that the FAA will propose changes in security programmes to require state-of-the-art X-ray and metal-detection equipment in airports and to require that airline pilots get "appropriate security information."

■ Another 36 Boeing Co. planes have been found with crossed wiring or plumbing lines, bringing the total of Boeing planes with that problem to 95. The US Federal Aviation Administration said Monday.

The latest 36 all belong to foreign carriers, Kiro-TV quoted the FAA as saying. The television station did not say which airlines the planes reportedly belonged to and FAA spokesman were not immediately reachable by telephone Monday night.



Kim Hyon-Hui, (L) the North Korean saboteur walks into a Seoul courtroom yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)

'Kill her'

Sentencing was set for April 25.

Court officials indicate privately that Kim may be pardoned. They say she was duped by North Korea and has repented.

The court heard testimony yesterday that the bomb Kim and a companion planted on the plane disguised as a radio and a liquor bottle was so powerful it would have destroyed the plane in less than a second.

"Why do you keep her alive?" screamed relatives of victims allowed into the courtroom.

Security was tight as hundreds of police and security agents ringed Seoul district court for the hearing. South Korean law stipulates a court hearing must be held even if a suspect has confessed.

"I now curse (North Korean President) Kim Il Sung and Kim Jung Il (his son and heir)," she said, wiping her eyes with a handkerchief. "I do not know how to atone for my crime."

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Retirement no danger to marriages

BOSTON, April 4, (UPI): Many people may dread or delay retiring because they fear ruining their marriage but a new study has found a husband's retirement does not create serious marital problems for most couples.

The three-year study of 92 couples found a majority — 60 per cent — said the husband's retirement within the past year had actually resulted in a "somewhat" or "much" better quality of life.

Only 10 per cent of the couples reported

their marriages had deteriorated since the retirement and in most cases that deterioration could be traced to other factors, such as an illness, the study found.

The rest of the couples said retirement had not changed their marriage, said Barbara Vinick, an assistant professor of social and behavioural medicine at Boston University School of Public Health. Vinick conducted the study with David Ekerdt of the University of Kansas Medical Center.

In fact, the study indicates the best way to predict whether retirement will adversely affect a marriage is to look at the marriage before retirement. If it is good, then it should be good afterward and vice versa, she said.

Vinick noted the retirement did have some short-term negative effects on both the husband and the wife. She stressed, however, that in most cases the negative effects only lasted several weeks or months and then the couple adjusted.

Many of the women in the study reported feelings of "impingement," in which they felt their husbands' increased presence in the house infringed on their privacy and disrupted their routines.

Many of the husbands in the study went through a period the researchers dubbed "the second look," in which they were often "dismayed at their wives' humdrum routines" and "what they considered the inordinate amount of time spent on housework."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Wyman wants tot with teen

LONDON, April 4, (Reuter): Rolling Stone Bill Wyman said yesterday he plans to start a family when he marries his teen-age girlfriend Mandy Smith, despite difference in their ages.

Wyman, 52, said he wanted to throw off his bachelor lifestyle and be a good husband to the 19-year-old Smith when they wed next June.

"I think I will be capable (of having children) for the next 20 years," the millionaire rock star said from the Caribbean island of Antigua where the Rolling Stones are recording their new album.

The relationship prompted widespread press criticism six years ago when Wyman started dating Smith, then a 13-year-old schoolgirl.

Soviet offers to launch Briton

LONDON, April 4, (KUNA): A British woman could be launched into space, by courtesy of the Soviet Union, it was suggested here today.

The world's first woman cosmonaut Valentina Tereshkova told a London press conference last night that "negotiations are being conducted with a view to signing an agreement to train a representative of Britain to participate in a joint mission in outer space, but I do not know whether there will be a lady among them."

She pointed out that as far as training is concerned the Soviet Union would provide the necessary support "and if it is a lady she will be welcomed very warmly."

Rogue elephant herd kills 8

NEW DELHI, April 4, (Reuter): A herd of elephants has killed eight people and spread terror in central India, the *Hindustan Times* reported today.

The newspaper said in a report from Madhya Pradesh state that experts on elephants had been rushed to the area to try to get rid of the 20-strong herd that had destroyed 120 houses.

The newspaper said the rampaging herd had been driven out of neighbouring states by canal building and in the past two months had spread panic through 50 villages.

Burglars outrun Olympian

AGEN, France, April 4, (Reuter): Former Olympic silver medallist Michel Jazy couldn't keep up the pace in a race against two jewel thieves.

Jazy, 52, who set a world record of 3 minutes 53.6 seconds for the mile in 1965, chased the burglars from a jewellery shop in Agen in the southern France.

But the burglars were too quick for him and escaped on a moped, police said.

Hope for stroke victims

Brain drain saves

WASHINGTON April 4, (UPI): Inserting a surgical "drain inside the brain" can help save the lives of some people stricken by severe strokes once considered untreatable, brain surgeons told a medical conference yesterday.

The surgeons from the Barrow Neurological Institute in Phoenix, Arizona, said the treatment is designed to aid people whose strokes are caused by a sudden rupturing of blood vessels in the brain, versus the more common type of stroke caused by blocked blood vessels.

About five per cent of people have a bulging of blood vessels in their brains called aneurysms. When aneurysms break, a stroke occurs — and about one out of 100,000 Americans suffer such a stroke each year.

In findings presented at the annual meeting of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons, the Arizona team described its study of 54 aneurysmal stroke victims whose conditions were "so dismal" that doctors normally do not perform surgery.

"When such people come to the emergency room, traditionally we would not be able to treat them," said Dr Julian Bailes, head of the study that ran from January 1986 through June 1989.

Watt's the matter in Calcutta?

'Blood flows Red for power'

CALCUTTA, April 4, (Reuter): The communist government of India's West Bengal state is calling for blood — to pay for electricity.

The Calcutta-based government has launched a major blood donation campaign to help raise 10 billion rupees (\$650 million) to build a thermal power plant to overcome chronic shortages.

The campaign is also aimed at spurring Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and boosting the communist's own election prospects.

Biman Bose, a West Bengal Marxist leader, told Reuters in a recent interview that the state government was fed up with what he called New Delhi's apathy and had decided to fund the power station on its own.

The initial work has begun and the state government aims to finish it by 1995. But at the moment the project is generating controversy rather than electricity.

Rajiv's Congress (I) Party has called the blood donation an election year political stunt and offered to find some of the money if West Bengal shares electricity with neighbouring states.

But Bose, who has donated blood three times, said the state government wanted 70 per cent of the electric power generated by the plant rather than 30 per cent offered by the national government.

He said the money was being raised from donations, loans from small savings, the state budget, blood donations and voluntary labour.

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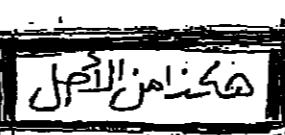
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Commerce co-operation

KUWAIT, April 4. (KUNA): The president of the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry Abdul Aziz Al Sager today received the president of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Soviet Armenian republic, Ashot Serkesian.

The two officials discussed co-operation between the Arab chambers of commerce and the Soviet Union, economic and trade relations and means of developing them in various fields.

AIDS free certificate

THE government of Pakistan has decided that all foreigners visiting Pakistan for more than one year will have to provide an 'AIDS free certificate' to the embassy of Pakistan to get a visa for Pakistan. The certificate must be obtained from a reputable laboratory, a press release by the Embassy of Pakistan said.

"Any foreigner who intends to stay in Pakistan for a period of one year or more and is not in possession of an AIDS free certificate shall have to fill up a card provided by the airport or seaport health authorities giving his address in Pakistan and will have to get his blood tested for AIDS from a laboratory, it said. Diplomats have been exempted, it added.

KFAS awards

KUWAIT, April 4. (KUNA): HH the Amir patronised the prize-giving ceremony for 1988 on Monday, at the premises of the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences.

Minister of Higher Education Dr Ali Al Shamani, deputising for HH the Amir, delivered a statement affirming His Highness' interest in patronising the annual ceremony to encourage scientific research in Kuwait and the Arab countries.

He said, "it is our duty to provide scientists with due care to pursue their research work under the best possible circumstances."

Educational council

KUWAIT, April 4. (KUNA): Education Minister Anwar Al Nouri today signed a ministerial decision forming the supervisory council for the rehabilitation and training of teachers.

The council will be chaired by the minister, who will determine the ministry's needs for teachers and other assistant educational specialists and will develop the educational cadres.

The council comprises Kuwait University's Sector, education undersecretary, director-general of the Applied Science and Education's Public Authority, dean of the university's Education Faculty, dean of the Basic Education College at the Public Authority, director of the Ministry's Training Centre and three nominees.

Fishermen's union

KUWAIT, April 4. (KUNA): Minister of Public Works Abdul Rahman Al Hoti on Monday opened the new premises of the Kuwaiti Fishermen's Union, located on Arabian Gulf Street.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdulaziz Al Rashed, Planning Minister Abdul Rahman Al Awadi, State Minister for Municipal Affairs Mohammed Al Rifai, and State Minister for Housing Affairs Abdullah Al Rawhan, in addition to a number of other high-ranking officials.

Chairman of the fishermen's union Abdul Rahman Al Shatti welcomed the audience.

Bhasin awards

NEW DELHI External Affairs Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao, recently distributed the 1988 Om Prakash Bhasin awards for Science and Technology to a select group of eight Indian scientists and researchers.

Dr G.S. Venkataraman and Dr S.K. Sinha of Indian Agricultural Research Institute received the award in the field of agriculture and allied sciences. The others are Dr V. Jagannathan of Tata Energy Research Institute (Biotechnology), Prof R. Narasimhan of Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (Electronics and Telecommunications), Dr R.K. Bhattacharya of Central Building Research Institute (Engineering and Transportation), Mr P.R. Roy of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (Energy), Dr M.G. Deo of Cancer Research Institute (Health & Medical Sciences) and Dr K. Kasturirangan of ISRO Satellite Centre (Space & Aerospac).

Thai envoy

KUWAIT, April 4. (KUNA): HH the Amir will today receive the credentials of the new ambassador of Thailand to Kuwait at Bayan Palace.

Congratulations

KUWAIT, April 4. (KUNA): HH the Amir sent a cable of congratulations to Yasser Arafat on the occasion of his election as President of the independent Palestinian state.



Sheikh Salem awarding a medal to an officer for outstanding duty.

Military honoured

KUWAIT'S Minister of the Interior, Sheikh Salem Al Sabah, yesterday decorated a number of senior officials with the first class meritorious medal for military duty.

Director-General of the Installations Security and Special Forces Department Brigadier Yusuf Al Mishari and Director-General of the State Security Department Brigadier Fahed Al Fahed were among the 31 decorated officials.

Speaking at the ceremony, the minister praised the efforts of the decorated officials and expressed the hope that these medals will encourage officials to exert more efforts towards protecting the country's security and stability.

Citizenship in phases

Restricted to Arabs

PERMANENT residencies may be granted to certain sections of expatriates, well-informed sources said.

A comprehensive project is to be discussed shortly by the demographic policies committee of the Higher Planning Council.

Sources said that such permanent residencies will be allocated priority basis to foreign husbands of Kuwaiti women and their children, foreign wives of Kuwaiti men and their children, and qualified personnel who have served the country for long periods of time.

The next phase will be applicable to expatriates nominated to obtain Kuwaiti nationality, including businessmen and those involved in academic and educational activities.

The project of granting such permanent residencies is, however, restricted to Arab expatriates only. The number of such residencies is expected to cover several thousand expatriates, sources said.

The demographic policies committee has been given the green signal by the Council of Ministers and the Higher Planning Council to study the issue from all aspects to determine exact preconditions for granting such residencies and then to submit its recommendations, the sources said.

Japanese just don't know: poll

Arab a stranger

TOKYO, April 4. (KUNA): Most Japanese are ignorant about the Arabs, according to an opinion poll conducted recently by the Kuwait News Agency.

A majority of the 370 Japanese surveyed said they did not know much about the Arabs. About 71 per cent said they learnt about the Arabs from the book of legends "One Thousand and One Nights"; 26 per cent got information from American movies while only three per cent said they followed Arab news in local Japanese media.

According to the poll, 13 per cent of those questioned said they were aware of Arab politics during the term of late Egyptian President Gamal Abdul Nasser.

The Japanese who were questioned said they got most information about the Arabs from other people or going through "school books", which do not explain much about Arabs or Muslims.

While seven per cent said they have read a great deal about the Arab-Israeli conflict.

About four per cent of the Japanese said they identified the Arabs with "hoses, oil, deserts, and veiled women."

A majority of those questioned said they did not know where Palestine was located. Some said Palestine is in Egypt and others believed it was in Lebanon.



Caring for the disabled

BRITISH Ambassador to Kuwait Peter Hinchcliffe yesterday formally handed over 12 Matrix Seating Units for the severely disabled to the Kuwait Society for the Handicapped.

They were received by the Director of the Society, Hashem Taqi and members of the board.

The units were purchased for the society by funds provided by the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

A part of the funding money, about KD6,500, will be used to send a technician and a physiotherapist to the UK for training. A British technician from Clinical Engineering Designs, who made the units, visited Kuwait to supervise the assembling of the special chairs.

Hinchcliffe flanked by Hashem Taqi and Mrs Hinchcliffe.

Habash seeks Arab support

DEPUTY Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Jaber today met the secretary-general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) Dr George Habash in the presence of state minister for foreign affairs and other senior ministry officials.

Following his meeting with Sheikh Sabah, Dr Habash told reporters that the Palestinian uprising was the emphasis of the talks.

The PFLP official has urged Arab regimes to increase their support of the uprising, financially and politically.

"Kuwait may not have a large population such as Egypt, or the military might of some Arab states, but it enjoys a good reputation and a sincere wish to back our cause," Dr Habash said.

He added, "We have requested that this reputation be utilized for the best interest of the uprising for the children, women and masses, who deserve the support of all."

Commenting on US President George Bush's call for an international peace conference, Dr Habash said that the American administration must voice a clear recognition of the right to self-determination for the Palestinian people.

The PFLP chief considered it an "accomplishment" if Arab leaders were able to convince the US administration to recognize the right of Palestinians to determine their own destiny and establish their own state.

Regarding the proposals of Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir toward resolving the problem, Dr Habash said that Shamir's ideas go only as far as granting Palestinians self-rule and also aim at aborting the uprising.

Dr George Habash also praised the supportive stances of HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Premier concerning the Palestine cause and the popular uprising against the Zionist occupation.

He told KUNA the uprising is a bright spot in the history of the Palestinian national struggle.

Dr Habash said he was filled with pride over these feelings which indicate the firmness of Kuwait's principled stand toward pan-Arab causes.

The PFLP official said that he had high hopes for the Kuwaiti support in all its forms to the Palestinian people so that they would not feel alone in the battle against Israeli occupation.

Despite Kuwait's small size and population, it owns a great moral force in the international sphere, Dr Habash said, adding that Kuwait was a pioneer state in utilizing this force in favour of Palestine and other Arab causes.

Arabisation endorsed at education meeting

THE Arabisation of Higher Education Committee wound up its two-day discussions on Sunday at the Meridien Hotel. In the final session, a number of individuals were chosen to assist the committee in setting out proposals for an Arabisation of Higher Education Project, committee secretary Abdul Rasoul Al Mousa said.

During the discussions, a number of participants supported the Arabisation project,

Child labour prevalent

Legally and socially unacceptable

CHILD labour is prevalent in Kuwait, according to a local daily which undertook a survey of different local work establishments.

Despite the fact that it is socially and legally unacceptable in Kuwait, an affluent country, for children between the ages of 12 and 17 to work, the market is replete with examples of children of varying ages working at various jobs, the daily said.

A large section of these workers says the main reason for working is financial need. Many children work as mechanics, electricians, plumbers and some are even employed in harder professions like loading and unloading.

The daily said that officials at

the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour had categorically pointed out that it is illegal for children under 14 years to work in different local work establish-

ments. Ashraf said that in the initial stages, he found the work to be quite hard, but in due course it has become easier and he is glad he has a trade in hand.

Salim Mohammed Muneer is a 15-year-old student in the fourth intermediate stage. He said that he works as a car electrician after school hours to have a trade in the future, and admitted that his work will adversely reflect on his academic career. Upon the encouragement of his father, he said that he doubles his working hours during summer holidays.

Ashraf Mahmoud, another teenager, said that he left school a decade ago to help his father who supports a family of eight. His father persuaded him to work at his shop so that a better income

could be provided to the family. Ashraf said that in the initial stages, he found the work to be quite hard, but in due course it has become easier and he is glad he has a trade in hand.

Nadim Ahmed, 13 years old, works as a goldsmith's helper with his father. He says that he would like to become as proficient as his father, despite the dangers involved as he works with oxygen and other highly inflammable materials that demand both courage and accuracy. He says that he sees no reason why the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour should prohibit him from taking up honest and gainful employment.

Khalil Al Dosouki, who is also a car mechanic, says that he has quit school to help his father who became sick. He has a

Drug cases rise

Stricter measures adopted

By Lima Al Khalefawi
Arab Times staff

DR Mohamed Odeh of Kuwait University, speaking at a drug seminar held yesterday said that drug smuggling, trafficking, and addiction are problems that Kuwait should seriously address.

The seminar, titled: "Ways of Treatment and Prevention," was opened by Assistant Rector of Kuwait University for Community Services and Information, Dr Rasha Al Sabah.

Drug problems in Kuwait are attributed to the country's affluence, demography, and geography, according to Dr Odeh. The age group of teenage addicts in Kuwait corresponds to their counterparts in other parts of the world, he said.

The drug problem has not only attracted the attention of experts and government authorities in Kuwait, but has been of serious concern world-wide, according to Dr Odeh.

The seminar is designed to provide a forum for the exchange of concepts to find ways and means of eradicating the menace, he said.

Capt. Hamad Al Surai from the Ministry of the Interior said that according to statistics, drug cases from 1980 to 1987 figures showed that drug cases increased from 221 to 236 and that the number of smugglers increased from 342 to 380.

Speaking on types of drugs abused in Kuwait, he added that hashish and opium addiction had decreased compared to heroin and kabtagone during 1988. He attributed this to the comparative ease of smuggling heroin into any country. The drop in kabtagone addiction is attributed to the enforcement of the law banning the substance in 1988.

Opium was brought into the country during the 1940s by a few sailors, but was totally rejected by the small society prevailing



Some of the speakers at the seminar.

increased from 206 to 350. Surai said. He added that from 1986 to 1987 figures showed that drug cases increased from 221 to 236 and that the number of smugglers increased from 342 to 380.

He expected that drugs such as cocaine and heroin would spread in the Gulf area due to the influx of tourists from Europe. To stop drug smuggling, authorities have implemented stricter measures to foil any attempt and also increased the intensity of penalties, he said.

Dr Ahmed Al Smaik of Kuwait University said that according to new articles of the Kuwaiti law stricter penalties, including in some cases the death penalty, have been implemented to prevent the spread of this vice in Kuwait.

For pioneering role in agriculture

Kuwaitis win top Arab award

By Yakub Razzaque
Arab Times staff

ONE of Kuwait's leading agricultural companies has won top Arab agricultural award for its pioneering role in developing and promoting agricultural activities in Kuwait at a ceremony held in Bahrain on Monday.

United Agricultural Production Company (UAPC) won the certificate of merit, under the large farm category, of the Arab Farming Award for 1988. The prestigious award, instituted for the first time in the Arab world to honour outstanding performance by Arab companies in agriculture, is organised by the Bahrain-based Arab World Agribusiness (AWA) journal which is published by Falcon Publishing.

In an exclusive interview with the Arab Times, Mohamed Saleh Abu Salih, general manager of UAPC, who attended the AWA awards ceremony, highlighted the role and achievements of the company in contributing to the overall progress of agriculture in Kuwait.

Abu Salih said Kuwait has come a long way since the government started developing and promoting agriculture in the country in a small way in 1960. He added that after 1970 agribusiness picked up considerably

with the provision of subsidised farming by the state in a bid to encourage farmers to increase cultivation and production. Under the policy of subsidised farming, incentives were provided either directly or indirectly through extensive modern technology and monthly stipends on the basis of performance to Kuwaiti farmers, particularly in the private sector.

However, Abu Salih, stated that real progress in the country's agricultural sector was made only after 1980, when the Kuwaiti government intensified farming activities with the aid of modern techniques and by allocating more land for cultivation.

The United Agricultural Production Company, which is 80 per cent state-owned, has played a significant role in boosting agriculture in Kuwait by pioneering production of crops and vegetables on a large scale on arid land with the use of treated sewage water, a new modern irrigation technique. The company, said to be the largest of its kind in Kuwait, was formed in two phases in 1976 and 1985 respectively with financial as well as land allocation by the government. It has a total area of 18 million sq. metres, out of which 14 million sq. metres is under cultivation. About one and a half of the rest is presently being prepared for future cultivation.

He said that transferring the mail portfolio to the private sector depends on several constraints, though the idea is feasible.

Such constraints as government support, shareholding prospects, security and confidentiality areas and the assignment of special supervisory personnel will have to be worked out, he said.

Improved postal service

No fresh levies: Al Sharhan

THE Ministry of Communications does not intend to increase existing telephone charges or levy any fresh charges, according to Minister Abdullah Al Sharhan.

The ministry is undertaking the improvement of the level of postal services in a series of seven steps, he added. Amongst these are providing more vehicles to distribute local mail and providing more post boxes at cooperative societies. These, along with other steps to be implemented,

will hopefully enable mail to be delivered within a maximum two-day period, Sharhan



A present and rage

Danish Prime Minister, Poul Schleuter (left), holds a copy of *The Satanic Verses*, which was given to him as a birthday present. Meanwhile, in Islamabad, Muslims burn an effigy of Rushdie outside the Pakistani Religious Affairs Ministry (right) in protest. (Reuter wirephoto)



Row breaks out at UNESCO over Rushdie

PARIS, April 4. (Reuter): The head of UNESCO yesterday disowned remarks by an intermediary for the UN cultural agency backing calls for the death of British author Salman Rushdie.

"For UNESCO, as a world-wide forum for dialogue and understanding, freedom of creation, of opinion and of expression, with respect for convictions, beliefs and religion, is

essential," UNESCO Director-General Federico Mayor said in a statement.

"It is every person's duty to respect other people's religions; it is also every person's duty to respect other people's freedom of expression," he added.

The Iranian news agency IRNA reported this weekend that Habib Chatti, described as an official with the UN cultural agency in

Tehran, had said that Rushdie, author of *The Satanic Verses*, was an apostate.

"All religions, including Christianity and Judaism, punish apostasy with the death penalty," IRNA quoted Chatti as saying.

IRNA said Chatti, the former secretary-general of the Organisation of Islamic Conference, was an adviser to Mayor.

US rapped for not recognising rebels

I was not injured: Hikmatyar

KUWAIT, April 4. (Agencies): Foreign Minister of the Afghan rebel government Gulbuddin Hikmatyar has criticised the United States for failing to recognise the mujahedeen government. He also said the rebel government will soon win recognition of many Islamic and Asian countries.

Hikmatyar, in an interview published in *Al Muftah* weekly magazine of Kuwait, said he personally opposes Washington's attempt to designate a special envoy to the mujahedeen government. "If America declared its recognition of the mujahedeen government, we would accept an ambassador from America but not a special envoy," he said.

Sudan Assembly approves peace

48 rebels killed



Mirghani Al Nasri

CAIRO, April 4. (Agencies): Sudan's Constituent Assembly, or parliament, yesterday approved a peace agreement between the Sudan People's Liberation Army and the Democratic Unionist Party to end the nearly six-year civil war in southern Sudan, the Middle East News Agency reported yesterday.

In a dispatch from the Sudanese capital of Khartoum, the news agency said the agreement, which was drafted last November, was opposed only by the Islamic National Front.

The INF has also refused to join the recently formed broad-based government under Prime Minister Sadiq Al Mahdi because of its acceptance of the DUP-SPLA peace accord.

Meanwhile the government said today troops had killed 48 rebels of the SPLA in recent fighting in south Kordofan province.

State radio Omdurman said troops had also destroyed three rebel camps in the area southwest of Khartoum, seizing a large haul of arms and ammunition. One soldier and three members of a pro-government militia in the area were killed in the battle.

The Army and SPLA first reported fighting in south Kordofan nearly a week ago, with both sides claiming victory.

The DUP, now the main coalition partner in the cabinet formed last month, had withdrawn from the government for its initial refusal to accept the peace accord. The vacant seats left by the DUP in the cabinet were later filled by the INF.

The news agency said the accord, which reportedly opposes the application of Islamic sharia law in the south, was approved by parliament earlier in the day by a vote of 128 to 23.

All 23 opposing votes belonged to the INF, which is now the main opposition bloc in

He believed Washington, by seeking to appoint an envoy with the mujahedeen government, was in effect bowing to pressures at home and from allies.

He said the US policy is contradictory as on the one hand it is still reluctant to recognise the mujahedeen "while on the other" it claims it supports the mujahedeen and provides them with assistance."

The US and Pakistan have been the mujahedeen's staunchest supporters in their eight years of war against the Soviet-backed Kabul government.

Hikmatyar admitted that the issue of an American envoy had not been discussed by the mujahedeen government but said he, believed the other ministers would back his opposition to the idea.

Hikmatyar denied press reports that he was injured in recent battles for control of the city of Jalalabad.

He told Al Muftah, the international media had exaggerated the magnitude and importance of the fighting between the mujahedeen and the Afghan Army around Jalalabad and stressed that the city would fall to the mujahedeen sooner or later.

The mujahedeen were closing in on the city slowly but steadily, according to Hikmatyar, who, however, made it a point to stress that Jalalabad has no special significance over other Afghan cities. Attacks on other cities are now being delayed only by thick snow, he added.

Bread queues have eased but life for Kabul's war-weary population is still a daily search for meagre food supplies priced beyond the reach of the poor.

With the two main roads supplying Kabul closed, a constant Soviet airlift brings food and other essentials to the Afghan capital and enables the government to feed soldiers fighting the rebels.

But the airlift brings in less than half the 600 tonnes of flour Kabul needs each day, and prices are rocketing in a country devastated by almost 10 years of civil war.

The flour is so precious that soldiers guard the bakeries.

In the beleaguered Kabul nearly three quarters of the children are malnourished, many of them doomed to an early death.

Al Nasri left Damascus for home today after talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Vice-President Abdel Halim Khaddam.

Al Nasri is on a three-day visit to Syria.

Combatting drugs

DAMASCUS, April 4. (Reuter): Interior Minister Mohammed Harba met his Cypriot counterpart Christodoulos Veniamin yesterday to discuss the fight against drug trafficking and other issues, the official Syrian News Agency (SANA) said.

Veniamin is on a three-day visit to Syria.

Unfreeze

DAMASCUS, April 4. (AP): Moroccan Foreign Minister Abdel Latif Al Filali and his Syrian counterpart Farouk Al Sharraa have agreed to resume implementing bilateral agreements frozen during a 30-month break in relations that ended in January.

Transferred

ANKARA, April 4. (AP): A group of Iraqi Kurdish refugees who fled to Turkey were transferred to Syria yesterday at their own request, the Foreign Ministry announced. About 60,000 Kurds crossed the border into Turkey last August.

GENEVA, April 4. (UPI): Soviet Jews allowed to emigrate soared to a 10-year high of 3,893 in March for a total 8,735 in the first three months of 1989, the Inter-governmental Committee for Migration (ICM) reported today.

An ICM official said: "It seems clear" that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is honouring an end-1986 pledge to make it easier for Jews seeking to leave.

The ICM began helping Soviet Jewish emigrants in 1971 when 12,680 arrived in the

West.

Numbers rose steadily to reach a record in 1979 of 51,330 but then fell dramatically because of ever-harsher Kremlin restrictions.

There were 21,470 in 1980, 9,860 in 1981, 2,700 in 1982, 1,320 in 1983, a record low of 922 in 1984, 1,140 in 1985 and just 943 in 1986.

It was in December, 1986, that Gorbachev pledged to make Jewish emigration easier and arrivals in the West promptly jumped to 8,011 in 1987 and 20,082 in 1988.

ICM officials and Jewish aid organisations,

notably the World Union for Progressive Judaism, believe the 1989 total could well reach 40,000.

They noted that monthly arrivals at the ICM reception centre in Vienna are nearly always rising and that 1989 could well approach the record year of 1979. The 8,735 total for the first quarter of the year indeed represented a monthly average of 2,912, well above the 1,789 monthly average for 1980 and moving towards the 4,277 per month figure in 1979.

Iran pulls envoy in tit-for-tat move

ATHENS, April 4. (UPI): Iran recalled its ambassador in Turkey today, in an apparent tit-for-tat move against Ankara which recalled Turkey's envoy in the Iranian capital a day earlier in a diplomatic row over Iranian interference in Turkey's internal affairs.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), in a dispatch from Tehran, said Iran's Ambassador to Ankara Manuchehr Mottaki "was summoned

here for consultations following the recent unprincipled and unfriendly (stand) of the Turkish government against Mottaki."

The news agency, monitored in Athens, quoted a spokesman of the Iranian Foreign Ministry as saying: "The West's provocations, coupled with collaboration of certain anti-Islamic factions in Turkey" had strained Ankara-Tehran ties.

The Turkish Foreign Ministry

announced yesterday that Ankara was recalling its ambassador in Tehran Omer Akbel because of Iranian interference in Turkey's internal affairs.

Turkey has repeatedly charged over the past month that Iran was interfering in its internal affairs after the constitutional court in Ankara upheld a ban on the Islamic headress by women students in Turkish universities.

On Friday, Ozal threw out seven Islamic fundamentalists

from his cabinet in a reshuffle seen to be his first step toward reforms within his government.

Turkish Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Nuzhet Kan demir said yesterday the decision to recall Akbel arose from remarks attributed to Mottaki in an interview.

Mottaki was quoted as saying "under instructions of the Majlis" Iran would "have to review" its ties with Turkey over the ban on the Islamic headress.

N-energy vital, Egypt; new heavy water talks

CAIRO, April 4. (UPI): Energy Minister Maher Abaza yesterday refused allegations by some members of Parliament claiming that both the United States and Israel pressure Egypt to abandon its plan for nuclear development.

Part of the heated parliamentary debate was broadcast by state-run Egyptian Television and Abaza was urged to implement earlier plans to turn the nation towards nuclear energy as this "cheap source of energy was much needed now to help accelerate the country's development programmes."

Abaza, however, said his government still needed more time before going ahead with its ambitious programme to set up eight nuclear power stations to cover 40 per cent of the country's total power needs before the turn of the century.

Abaza put the blame for the delay on the nuclear disaster in the Soviet reactor in Chernobyl in 1986 and said it has forced the government to reconsider its plans of turning nuclear as it needed time to make sure that what happened there would not happen in Egypt.

The minister assured worried members of Parliament that the nuclear programme was however "vital" for Egypt.

"We are being exposed to an international conspiracy and pressures from America and Israel not to enter into the nuclear age," Member of Parliament Hamdi Al Siyad charged in the debate.

US, West German and French-Italian firms have submitted bids to establish Egypt's first nuclear power station.

Meanwhile, Norway said today that Israel had agreed to reopen talks over a consignment of heavy water — which can be used to make atomic bombs — sold to Israel in a secret deal 30 years ago.

Foreign Minister Thorvald Stoltenberg, now visiting occupied Jerusalem, discussed the long-running dispute with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens yesterday, a ministry spokeswoman said.

"Israel has now said it is willing to start a new round of negotiations if this is requested by Norway," she said.

Oslo sold Israel 20 tonnes of heavy water, used in the manufacture of plutonium, in 1959 and has repeatedly demanded the right to inspect it. Media reports since 1986 have charged that Israel used it to make atomic bombs.

A West German firm linked to an alleged Iraqi nuclear weapons project is being investigated for possible foreign trade law violations, the Bielefeld public prosecutor's office said yesterday.

The mujahedeen were closing in on the city slowly but steadily, according to Hikmatyar, who, however, made it a point to stress that Jalalabad has no special significance over other Afghan cities. Attacks on other cities are now being delayed only by thick snow, he added.

Bread queues have eased but life for Kabul's war-weary population is still a daily search for meagre food supplies priced beyond the reach of the poor.

With the two main roads supplying Kabul closed, a constant Soviet airlift brings food and other essentials to the Afghan capital and enables the government to feed soldiers fighting the rebels.

But the airlift brings in less than half the 600 tonnes of flour Kabul needs each day, and prices are rocketing in a country devastated by almost 10 years of civil war.

The flour is so precious that soldiers guard the bakeries.

In the beleaguered Kabul nearly three quarters of the children are malnourished, many of them doomed to an early death.



Israeli Peace Now activists carry torches, flags and "Speak Peace with the PLO Now" banners as they march towards Shamir's house. (Reuter wirephoto)

Shamir leaves for US

Talk to PLO, Israelis ask

the PLO now" and "Shamir, give peace a chance."

Dozens of police on foot and horseback lined Jerusalem's King George Street to prevent any clashes with right-wing groups protesting against the march by the Peace Now Movement.

Shamir left early today for the United States. The Bush administration is expected to press him to come up with ways to end the Middle East peace deadlock and a nearly 16-month-old revolt in Israeli-occupied Arab territories.

Peace activists, young and old, carried torches and banners which read "Speak peace with

down the congested Jerusalem street.

Earlier, Shamir promised Jewish settlers in the occupied territories he would never abandon them despite strong pressures on Israel.

"Powerful forces are at work against Israel and it is up to us to prevent these pressures. We must be prepared and united against the PLO," his office quoted him as telling the 70,000 Jews of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip on Sunday.

"Even if I don't say everyday, 'long live the settlements', I won't abandon them," the 73-year-old hardline leader said.

Iraq may dissolve RCC

Multi-party system

BAGHDAD, April 4. (UPI): Newly-elected lawmakers in Iraq's parliamentary elections are expected to endorse a new constitution and pass a law establishing a multi-party system and dissolving the ruling Revolutionary Command Council, government officials said today.

Although the results of all 250 seats to the Iraqi national assembly have been made public, there was still no indication as to which party has won the maximum number of seats.

Even without the breakdown of results, Iraqi officials praised Saturday's election as "historic." Radio Baghdad said the only cabinet minister standing for election, Kurdish state minister Hashim Hassan Aqawi, failed to win a seat.

But two former cabinet ministers, Hatim Abdul Rashid, who served as light industry minister, and Hashim Hassan Tawfiq, who served as finance minister, won seats.

The Baathist Party's leading political figure in Baghdad, Saadi Meadi Saleh, also won a seat in the poll which government officials said had attracted a high turn-out. No figures on the election have yet been released however.

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THE greater the difficulty, the greater the glory —
Cicero, Roman statesman-philosopher (106 BC-43 BC).

Bombings in Turkey

Ominous violence

By Ayse Saroglu.

ANKARA, (Reuter): Bomb attacks on British targets and three big companies in Turkey have raised the spectre of escalating violence after a series of political setbacks have weakened its centre-right government.

Prime Minister Turgut Ozal told his Motherland Party after the blasts on Sunday night: "We must see if Turkey is again heading towards... a new era of anarchy and discontent of the pre-1980 days."

A British embassy car and a building of the British Council in Ankara were damaged by bomb explosions on Sunday night when the offices of three Istanbul companies were also bombed and slightly damaged. No one was injured in any of the attacks.

The Istanbul explosions were later claimed by the far left Dev-Sol (Revolutionary Left) group, active before the 1980 Army coup which quelled political violence in which 3,000 people died during the late 1970s.

The Marxist-Leninist group, banned since 1980, has mounted a number of attacks on banks and some Motherland offices in Istanbul since November 1988. It was also responsible for several surprise street protests and booby-trapped placards in Istanbul in the past year.

British sources said new security precautions had been taken in British premises in Turkey after threats which followed a political row between Iran and Britain over Salman Rushdie's book *The Satanic Verses*.

The book, seen by many Muslims as blaspheming against Islam, led Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini to order Muslims to kill Rushdie, provoking a political storm in the West and leading Tehran to break diplomatic relations with London.

Turkey refused to link the recall of its ambassador from Tehran on Monday to the attacks against British targets.

Accusations

Ankara ordered its envoy to return for consultations and accused Iran of interfering in its internal affairs, saying Iranian officials had shown "bothersome interest" in a court decision to ban Muslim-type headscarves in Turkish universities.

"I have no comment to make on the incidents as they do not concern our ministry," Nuzhet Kandemir, Foreign Ministry under-secretary, told reporters.

Political instability in the 1970s was widely seen as a factor in the spread of bombings and killings in the streets of Turkish cities before the military coup.

"In line with political developments, such regretful incidents increase," a security source in Istanbul said after Sunday's attacks.

Ozal's ruling Motherland Party came third in local polls on March 26 with 21.9 per cent of the total votes and has come under mounting pressure from the opposition parties to call early general elections.

Ozal said he would ask Parliament for a confidence vote this week but has not responded to calls for early elections.

Both the Social Democrat Populist Party (SHP) which led the polls with 28.4 per cent of the votes and the centre-right True Path Party (DYP) which came second have called for early general elections.

In the political tension after the poll, an opposition member of Parliament was shot dead in the Parliament building.

Ozal himself was target of an assassination attempt last June when a gunman opened fire at him during a party congress in Ankara.

Dev-Sol claimed responsibility for three bomb attacks in January against the offices of a Turkish-US business group, an economic development foundation in Istanbul and the Ankara branch of Metal Employers Union.

"If the fight continues we will all end up under the rubble. Ozal must announce, at least when early general elections can be held," wrote columnist Mehmet Ali Birand in the liberal daily Milliyet.

Fluctuations undesired

VIENNA, April 4, (OPECNA): Both OPEC and non-OPEC producers want to avoid the severe fluctuations that have characterised the oil market in recent times, says an editorial in the March issue of the OPEC Bulletin.

"The picture is changing fast but, by and large, it is a picture of an approaching calm, rather than an approaching storm. How much better for the economic well-being of the world than an era of confrontation".

The editorial notes that while OPEC and non-OPEC are unlikely to meet formally until May, it should not be taken to mean that co-operation is no longer of significance for the oil industry.

Referring to the continuing recovery in the price of oil, the editorial attributes it to the measures taken by OPEC and non-OPEC producers and the distinct change in their attitude towards future co-operation, something that has been "correctly sensed" by the market.

OPEC, asserts the "Bulletin," has "laid its cards on the table for all to see," having initiated co-operative measures by reining in a large proportion of its capacity to remain within a self-imposed quota of 18.50 million BPD.

The editorial points out that the quota system within the OPEC family is working satisfactorily, though, at times, the media have difficulty grasping the concept.

A quota, explains the publication, is to be defined as production, plus minus stock movements, which can be computed by adding up domestic consumption plus any exports, plus stock withdrawals.

The editorial notes with satisfaction that the last non-OPEC meeting in London was a further sign that "co-operation is being extended," adding "even those countries which for pressing economic problems are unable to implement immediate measures, agree on the principle that this is the best way to support market stability."

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1594 — Jean Chastel, pupil of the Jesuits, attempts to assassinate France's King Henry IV.
- 1664 — Peace treaty of Westminster ends first Anglo-Dutch war.
- 1794 — French revolutionaries G. J. Danton and Camille Desmoulins are executed.
- 1826 — Russian ultimatum to Turkey over Serbia and Danubian Russia.
- 1881 — Britain concludes treaty of Pretoria with Boers, recognizing independence of South African republic of Transvaal.
- 1886 — Abdul Hamid II, Sultan of Turkey, appoints Alexander of Bulgaria as governor of eastern Rumelia.
- 1939 — All German children between ages of 10 and 13 are ordered to serve in Hitler Youth Organization.
- 1946 — Soviet Union agrees to withdraw troops from Iran on promise of reforms in Azerbaijan.
- 1951 — Julius and Ethel Rosenberg of New York City are sentenced to death as atomic spies for Soviet Union.
- 1958 — Fidel Castro begins "total war" against Batista government in Cuba.
- 1969 — Four-man British expedition reaches North Pole after 14-month, 1,300-mile (2,000 km) trek by dog sled.
- 1971 — Pakistan airlifts foreigners from East Pakistan as fighting rages during a revolt.
- 1986 — Bomb, blamed on terrorists, kills two and injures 155 as it rips through crowded West Berlin discotheque popular with US soldiers.
- 1988 — Arabic-speaking hijackers commandeer Kuwait Airways Corporation plane with 112 people aboard and force it to land in Iran.

Feeling guilty over harsh methods used

'After all, an Arab is a human being'

Difficult task

By William B. Ries

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, (UPI): For months, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's aides compared the Israeli leader's developing ideas on the peace process to "a good, old wine in a new bottle" — that is, the 1978 Camp David accords adapted to the present situation.

This week in Washington, Shamir finally will have to uncork his new bottle and present the vintage to the Bush administration, which has said it wants to see realistic proposals that will breathe new life into the moribund Middle East peace process.

It is not likely that Shamir will be able to convince Washington he is serious about advancing the peace process if he will not budge on key issues, such as accepting the PLO as a negotiating partner.

Perhaps Shamir's most difficult task will be dispelling his image of inflexibility.

While the United States has begun talks with the PLO and many Western nations have upgraded their contacts with the group, Shamir has ruled out any form of dialogue with the PLO. He also has rejected trading territory for peace and an international peace conference, all ideas supported by Washington.

The package that Shamir will take to Washington is essentially made up of the Camp David accords. They seek a five-year period of autonomy for Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, with talks to begin in the third year on a final arrangement.

The new ingredient is a proposal to hold elections first to choose representatives for autonomy talks. In this way, Shamir would avoid contacts with the PLO.

Israeli officials privately acknowledge that there is little chance the PLO will agree to elections, and it is unlikely that Palestinians in the territories will go to the polls with the PLO's approval. The PLO already has rejected elections without an Israeli troop withdrawal and has questioned their purpose.

The PLO says it is the leadership of the Palestinians that must negotiate any peace settlement.

If the Americans accept the idea of elections as a step forward and the PLO rejects them, Israel would be the winner and Shamir's trip a success, according to an optimistic scenario envisioned by one Israeli official.

"For a change, we have an idea Israel is supporting and the PLO is rejecting," he said.

Shamir and his advisers, including Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, see themselves on the defensive in a propaganda war with the PLO. They believe the PLO has scored points with the Palestinian uprising and statements of moderation.

But if Bush and Baker see nothing of substance in the election proposal, Shamir's visit could become a disaster for the right-wing prime minister.

"If the Americans will try to channel the decisions of Shamir into other directions, the visit will fail," said one source with close ties to the government.

Indeed, many of Shamir's proposals appear to be non-starters intended to draw a rejection from the Palestinian leadership.

For example, the Bush administration has urged Israel to lessen tension in the occupied territories by reducing the number of troops and easing other security measures. Shamir is willing to take these steps only if the level of violence drops.

stone-throwing protesters.

But some soldiers said they rarely feel danger under barrages of stones, and added that anger or a hurt sense of national pride could spur violent reactions to stone-throwers.

They also say that orders on when to open fire of beat protesters are too vague, leaving too much to the discretion of individual soldiers in the heat of a clash.

Some 50 troops have been formally charged or punished for illegal beatings and shootings during the uprising. The Army acknowledges others have been punished by officers in individual units.

On the other hand, about 60 soldiers have been tried for refusing duty in the occupied territories. The small number results from Israel's pride in their citizen Army, in which all Jewish men and women do compulsory duty. Men serve in the reserves until age 55.

standing orders left "many gray areas."

"There can be some incident where commands are not clear, even with the best of soldiers," Shomron testified. A civilian who resists arrest can be beaten, he said, "but when someone stops resisting, that is a matter of opinion."

Some 50 troops have been formally charged or punished for illegal beatings and shootings during the uprising. The Army acknowledges others have been punished by officers in individual units.

Controversy over these orders has emerged in the still-unfinished trial of four troops charged with fatally beating a 42-year-old Palestinian man in the Gaza Strip last August while conducting an arrest.

Israeli Chief of Staff Lieut. Gen. Dan Shomron acknowledged at the trial that

A waiting game for rebel commander plotting fall of Kabul

By Grant McCool

PESHAWAR, (Reuter): In a quiet suburban house, Afghan guerrilla commander Abdul Haq plots the fall of Kabul.

He uses computers to store plans for military operations, strikes and civil disobedience in the Afghan capital and has detailed maps hidden behind sliding screens.

It's a waiting game for Haq, one of the most effective rebel commanders to have emerged from the 10-year Afghan war.

"The difference between us and other 'mujahedeen' is that we work inside the city with the people, the Afghan Army, police forces and different regime forces within the city," he said in an interview at his guarded home in the north-western Pakistani city of Peshawar.

Fighting against Afghan communists has aged him far beyond his 30 years. His thinning hair, lined face and plastic artificial foot are among the physical scars of more than a decade of war.

"I have a belief that we've got to stop one day... it is sometimes too much," said Haq, commander for the Kabul area of the Hezbi-i-Islami (Khalis) party, one of seven Pakistan-based Muslim guerrilla groups fighting the Soviet-backed government.

Controversial for his criticism of the politicians in the seven-party

alliance who formed an interim government in exile in February, Haq is frank about the failing of rebel strategy in the siege of the south-western city of Jalalabad.

"There was no contact between them and the people in the city, it turned to conventional war. But the main problem is that the mujahedeen were too strong in that area, and they became too proud of themselves and did not use their brains," he said.

"I know the regime is not strong there. I know the people do not want to fight for the regime or die for them, but the mujahedeen made them fight for survival."

The stubborn defence of garrisons around the city, attacked in early March, has surprised the mujahedeen and their Western supporters who predicted a quick victory.

The rebels, heartened by the relatively easy capture of the important government post at nearby Samarkhel, pressed on to the airport but were stalled by Air Force bombing and the presence of dense minefields.

"Let me show you something," says Haq, getting up and walking across to his desk in his thickly-carpeted study. It is a copy of a magazine interview published in May last year in which he warned against such an assault on Jalalabad, saying the loss of possibly

thousands of lives would not be worth it.

"So now, if they carry on it will be bad and if they pull back that will also be bad," Haq said.

Wounded 15 times, his foot smashed by a landmine at Paghman west of the capital 18 months ago, Haq has seen enough killing to make him prudent when it comes to committing his men to the task of overthrowing the capital without a massive artillery assault that would risk killing civilians and losing sympathy.

"We have to find a way to minimise the bloodshed... it is a question of tactics and strategy which can take care of the regime in such a way you don't lose many people."

Haq said there was a network of 150 to 200 groups under his command, some of them working within the government, among the city's 2.5 million people.

"Our plan is to wear the regime down with strikes or civil disobedience. Where the people cannot put the pressure on from the inside, the soldiers will apply pressure from the outside," said Haq, a short, round man.

Haq said he had taken part in three coup attempts by the age of 18, the last of which brought him arrest and a death sentence. "The regime changed and my family brought them to get me out."

of the five leaders she met during her African tour, only Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe expressed doubts Pretoria will change as quickly as she appeared to believe.

At a Harare banquet, Mugabe also questioned whether Pretoria would allow the Namibian elections set for November to go ahead.

Thatcher's advisers concede the Namibian bloodbath has been a setback to her role as an honest broker. Because of her refusal to back punitive economic sanctions against South Africa, she carries more clout with Pretoria than perhaps any other world leader.



Thatcher's gamble

Thatcher strategy in southern Africa threatened

By Peter Gregson

LONDON, (Reuter): The fighting in Namibia, which imperils its new-born independence process, also threatens to leave Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's regional strategy in tatters.

In a high-risk gamble, the British leader flew to the Namibian capital of Windhoek on Saturday for what was planned as a triumphal finale to a week-long southern African peace drive.

All week Thatcher had trumpeted the Namibian agreement, which linked a handover from South African rule and a pullout of Cuban troops from neighbouring Angola, as the dawn of a new era of peace and stability for the region.

After learning of the first clash on Saturday, a grim-faced Thatcher called a news conference to warn Pretoria it was in its

own best interests to ensure the agreement worked.

"Its implementation will have an enormous influence on the whole future of affairs in South Africa. Anything which flouted it would be disastrous," she declared.

The Namibian nationalist group SWAPO has denied Pretoria's allegations it started the fighting and accused the South African Army of hunting down guerrillas before pulling out of the territory under the UN peace plan.

Thatcher has a long-range plan for southern Africa based on all sides abstaining from force and negotiating peace.

She believes success in Namibia will persuade South Africa to carry out radical reform itself, a development she would

endorse with a visit her planners had been privately projecting for the second half of next year.

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Thatcher's advisers concede the Namibian bloodbath has been a setback to her role as an honest broker. Because of her refusal to back punitive economic sanctions against South Africa, she carries more clout with Pretoria than perhaps any other world leader.

Few political analysts and diplomats believe the conflict will ever resume its previous importance and say attention is focused on how to reach a final accord acceptance to all sides.

In February, Morocco and four other North African countries — Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Mauritania — agreed to set up the Arab Maghreb Union, a regional grouping on the lines of the European Economic Community.

Labour unrest grows in Morocco as memories of Saharan war fade

BUSINESS & FINANCE

GCC ministers to co-ordinate oil policy

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia, April 4. (Agencies): A Saudi Arabian newspaper reported today that the oil ministers of the six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council will meet later this month to co-ordinate oil policy.

The newspaper Al Sharq Al Awsat, quoting unidentified sources, said the meeting was expected to be convened in the Red Sea port city of Jeddah and would deal with a number of important topics including the outlines of the future oil strategy.

The GCC groups Saudi Arabia, the world's largest oil exporter, with Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Oman. The first four are prominent members of the 13-nation Organisation of

Petroleum Exporting Countries, and oil is a major source of revenue for all six.

The GCC oil ministers meet periodically to discuss joint policy action. They last met in December after the OPEC member states had lined up an oil production agreement for January to June 1989, slashing unbridled oil output for the 13 member states to a ceiling of 18.5 million barrels per day.

The enforcement of the agreement, coupled with the high winter seasonal demand, helped arrest a two-year downside in prices and brought them closer to the OPEC targeted \$18 per barrel tag.

OPEC wants to sustain that upward trend while it is expected to accommodate members calling for a higher production

ceiling. Both Kuwait and the UAE are known to want higher production quotas.

The agenda of the GCC ministers was also to include development of joint oil projects, among which the paper mentioned a trans-GCC oil pipeline ending off Oman on the Arabian Sea and a collective gas network, marketing of gas and refined oil products and training of a national labour force.

Meanwhile, the Petroleum Intelligence Weekly (PIW) said today that a "distinct slowdown" in energy conservation and oil substitution is now taking place in industrialised countries.

The New York-based newsletter added: "And these new trends ultimately point to faster future oil demand growth and

greater reliance on OPEC."

The shift from conservation and substitution would become more pronounced if oil prices remain at their current low levels in real terms, PIW predicted.

The newsletter pointed out that after adjusting for inflation oil was now cheaper than at any point since the early 1970s.

It went on: "While energy efficiency gains are slowing generally, basic economy forces are creating even more striking changes in oil consumption trends.

"The sustained economic expansion of the 1980s has pushed the utilisation of manufacturing capacity to unusually high rates, bringing the oldest, least efficient units on line. These are often oil-powered."

Gold moves up

Dollar sinks

LONDON, April 4. (Reuters):

The dollar closed lower in Europe today as investors took profits to try and cut their losses after steep falls in Asia overnight.

Dealers said the trend was likely to remain negative for the currency, at least until the US jobs report for March is released on Friday.

The dollar closed in London at 1.8693 West German marks and 130.90 Japanese yen after ending Monday at 1.8810 and 132.00.

Shares on the London Stock Exchange were knocked off the day's highs after an easier opening on Wall Street. The FTSE index of 100 leading shares closed 3.2 points lower at 2,082.8.

French Finance Minister Pierre Bérégovoy said G-7 officials who met in Washington last weekend felt a further rise in the US currency would hinder the correction of global trade imbalance and trigger competitive interest rate increases.

"What it means is that it would be better for the dollar not to go up," Bérégovoy said at a news conference in Washington.

"That gave us an excuse to sell dollars," said one currency trader in Frankfurt.

A senior Japanese official also in Washington had earlier said the dollar should stabilise at around current levels.

Dealers said the dollar appeared to have peaked for now.

"The point is that the G-7 have

made clear that 1.90 marks is the top," said one Frankfurt trader.

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Mubarak defends pace of economic reforms

WASHINGTON, April 4. (AP):

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak defended the scope and pace of his nation's economic reforms today and told members of Congress that Egypt needs continued high levels of US economic assistance.

Senate Democratic leader George Mitchell described the 90-minute private meeting between Mubarak and 15 Senators as "very beneficial and fruitful" but said commitments on the aid issue were neither sought nor given.

Both Mitchell and Senate Republican leader Bob Dole said Senators told the Egyptian president that the United States must keep the large US budget deficit in mind in dealing with all requests for economic and military assistance.

Mitchell said Senators appeared favourably impressed with Mubarak's description of Egypt's economic reform programme including the reduction of subsidies on a number of consumer products and revisions in the country's tax structure.

Energy File

Algerian nuclear reactor opened

ALGIERS, April 4. (Reuters): President Chadli Benjedid inaugurated Algeria's first nuclear reactor on Monday, the official APS news agency announced.

It said the reactor called Nur (light), built with the help of Argentina, would be used only for technical and scientific training and other peaceful purposes in the area of nuclear physics.

The APS report gave no further details.

Interest

The Arab world has shown little interest in nuclear energy as the majority of countries have sufficient oil and gas.

The Israeli Air Force destroyed Iraq's Osirak nuclear reactor in 1981, saying it planned to develop nuclear weapons.

Egypt has shown interest in building a nuclear power plant on its Mediterranean coast but plans have been postponed several times.

Israel has a nuclear facility but has never confirmed Western newspaper reports that it has an arsenal of nuclear weapons.

Oil boom

■ LONDON, April 4. (AP): Britain will experience a second oil boom in the next decade and will remain a self-sufficient oil nation into the 21st century, stockbrokers County NatWest Stockbrokers predicted on Monday.

The firm said Britain's North Sea oil production should rise sharply again by the mid-1990s, driven by 42 potential developments and investment of £14 billion (nearly \$24 billion).

Petrol prices

■ PARIS, April 4. (OPECNA): With the improvement of oil prices in the world market, petrol prices increased here seven centimes in a week to reach an average price of \$0.80 per litre, according to figures by the Ministry of Industry.

The ministry said that petrol prices increased by a total of 25 centimes over the first quarter of the year, which it attributed to the oil spill in Valdez, Alaska.

Cheysson praises ACC

Further growth of Arab world 'vital'

CAIRO, April 4. (KUNA): EEC Commissioner for the Mediterranean Claude Cheysson today affirmed here that the further growth of the Arab world is of great importance to the European Economic Community, stressing that the future of the European economies is on the line, awaiting a quick and capable Arab development to materialise.

While praising the establishment of the Arab Co-operation Council and the Arab Maghreb Union, Cheysson said that there is no limit for what Arabs can achieve if they only stick together.

Ambitions

Al Nasran, who was speaking on behalf of Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Meguid, said that the EEC is pushing forward the peace efforts in the region.

Interest

He indicated "the Arab and European communities have a sure interest in upholding the dialogue on the various levels, particularly on security and co-operation with Rome."

Dunkel to open crucial session

US, EEC optimistic on trade talks

under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the Uruguay round is aimed at freeing the flow of world commerce and setting international trading patterns for the next century.

Dunkel said the atmosphere in the private preparatory talks was "extremely constructive," adding that negotiators had shown they were building on compromise proposals he circulated last month for resolving the four outstanding issues. "We are moving step by step ... the process is moving well," he said.

"It is not my intention to rush things ... my problem is not to have a text ready tomorrow ... if it is the day after tomorrow it is still in line with my planning," he added.

Negotiators said they expected tomorrow's plenary session to be brief, with Dunkel reporting on progress to date and then adjourning the meeting for further private consultations.

United States and European Economic Community officials told separate news briefings they had made progress on long-term objectives for farm trade reform — an issue where their previous deep divergences were a major cause of the Montreal deadlock.

The dispute was over how far and how fast to dismantle subsidies for farm production and exports, blamed for straining budgets and creating food surpluses that depress world prices.

Differences on these four topics threw into deadlock a meeting of government ministers which was convened in Montreal last December to review progress midway through the four-year Uruguay round talks.

Named after the nation where they began in 1986

ACC, AMU to strengthen inter-Arab co-operation

KUWAIT, April 4. (KUNA): The Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) has warned that the creation of Arab economic and political groupings, though ostensibly beneficial, could pose "dangers" that must not be overlooked.

The bright side of the issue is that such groupings can effectively eliminate obstacles that have hindered inter-Arab trade exchange. OAPEC said in the editorial of the April issue of its monthly publication.

The monthly was referring the back-to-back birth last February of the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) and the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU).

The first body brings together Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and the Yemen Arab Republic, while the AMU comprises Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Libya and Mauritania.

Opportunities

"The increased opportunities for pan-Arab rapprochement provided by the new groupings will create favourable climate for joint ventures to pursue Arab economic integration," OAPEC said.

If well-employed, those groups will eliminate financing problems that have long plagued joint Arab ventures and provide expanded markets for their products, it added.

"However, the dangers of the new Arab groupings should not be overlooked," according to the publication, which added that "instead of lowering barriers and encouraging the exchange of production factors and goods among a group's members, the new groupings could be used as a pretext for raising barriers against other Arab states."

Relations

To prevent the likelihood, OAPEC recommended that the ACC, the AMU and the eight-year-old Gulf Co-operation Council work together for stable relations among them and with the rest of other Arab countries "so as to promote inter-Arab Co-operation and increase the benefit derived from existing joint Arab institutions."

It concluded: "In this way the new groupings can help achieve the goal of pan-Arab integration."

Gulf Bank profits soar

KUWAIT, April 4. (Reuters): Gulf Bank today joined three others in Kuwait in announcing increased 1988 profits, confirming a trend toward a second year of greater bank earnings in Kuwait.

Gulf, the country's second largest bank, said profit rose 8.4 per cent to 7.7 million dinars (\$26.6 million) from 7.1 million (24.4 million) in 1987.

Kuwait's commercial banks began showing increased profits in 1987 after a slump of several years caused by low oil revenues and bad loans.

Of the country's six banks, only Al Ahli Bank declared lower profits for 1988, while Burgan Bank has yet to report.

Record profits for UAE bank

ABU DHABI, April 4. (Reuters): The Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank, one of the biggest in the United Arab Emirates, reported record profits for 1988 after overcoming severe problems.

Bank chairman Sheikh Surour Bin Sultan Al Nahyan said profits were boosted by a 31 per cent jump in customer deposits and by reduced administrative and general costs.

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P.O. Box 177 Safat
13002 Safat Kuwait

New building for Commercial Bank

Picture shows from left to right: Khalid Nazzal Al Mus'ab, Hamad Al Hamad, Ms Dalal Al Ghanim and Ms Wasileh Arafah (branch manager).

HAMADA A. Al Hamad, chairman of the Commercial Bank of Kuwait, patronised the inauguration of the bank's Farwaniya Co-operative branch's new building at the Co-operative Society premises on Monday. The inauguration ceremony was held amidst cheers and jubilation in which Khalid Nazzal Al Mus'ab, member of the General Authority for Agriculture and Marine Wealth cut a ribbon and opened the new building.

Among the attendants were the bank's esteemed customers and well-wishers, top officials from Farwaniya Governorate, the bank's executive and senior management including Richard K.O. Carey, general manager, Mahmoud I. Barhoun, AGM, Retail Banking Division, Ms Dalal Al Ghanim, AGM, Marketing Division, Hamad Al Sager, AG

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

LONDON
(ADRIEN SIECKS)LONDON
(DRIEN SIECKS)

NAME	LAST	CLOSE	OPEN
ABBEY LFE	315/0	LAPORE	448/0
ADT LTD	157/0	LASHO	453/0
ALD LYONS	449/0	LEGAL-GEN	320/0
AMSTRAD	136/0	LINHORO	319/0
ARGYLL GP	186/0	LUCAS IND	620/0
ASDA GP	149/0	MAGNET	302/4
BAA	342/0	MARKESS-SP	160/0
BTR	369/0	MARKESS-SP	160/0
BAT IND	570/0	MAXWELL C	208/0
BARCLAYS	442/0	MCGREGOR	280/0
BASS	915/0	MGB GROUP	280/0
SEAZER	197/0	MECCA LEI	193/0
BECHAM	618/0	MEDICO	186/0
BERSIFORD	150/0	PEARL	423/0
BICE PLC	492/0	PEARSON	720/0
BLUE ARR	93/0	PILKINGTON	250/4
BLUE CIRC	567/0	PLESSEY	248/0
BOC GP	511/0	POLY PEC	314/0
BOOTS CO	276/0	RACAL ELC	392/0
BPF IND	257/0	RACAL TEL	340/0
BR COMM	205/0	RANK HVIS	393/0
BR AIRWAY	199/0	RANK ORG	912/4
BR AEROSP	564/0	RCKT-IND	084/0
BR GAS RG	176/0	REDLAND	534/0
BR LAND	370/0	REED	412/0
B.P.	284/2	RHO GRP	680/0
B.P. PP	178/0	REUTERS	679/0
BR STEEL	81/4	RTZ CORP.	528/0
BR TELCOM	277/0	ROLLS ROY	185/4
BURKHA IND	538/0	ROTHMANS B	501/0
BURTON	210/0	ROYAL INS	415/4
CABLES/BR	482/0	SAATCHI	286/0
CADBURYS	343/0	SATNSBURY	224/4
CALOR GRP	384/0	SCOT-NEW	310/0
CALTH COM	905/0	SEARS	121/0
CALTH R T	902/0	SEDEVICK	241/0
COKSONS	367/0	SELL	391/0
COURTAULD	298/0	SIEBE	476/0
DALGETY	353/0	SLOUGH ES	316/0
DIXONS	155/0	STD.CHART	535/0
ENG. CHINA	535/0	STC	316/0
ENTER OIL	535/0	STORENSE	176/2
FKI BABCK	171/0	SUN ALLIA	151/0
FERRANTI	105/0	SUN LIFE	945/0
FISONS	298/0	TARMAC	316/0
GATEWAY	166/0	TATELYLE	251/0
GEN ACCID	980/0	TYLR WOOD	625/0
GEN ELEC	253/0	TRAF HSE	373/0
GLAXO	347/0	TSB	116/0
GRANADA	382/0	T + H	214/0
GLOBAL	165/5	TRUSTHSE	287/0
GLYNWED	332/0	ULTRAMAR	294/0
GUARD RYL	208/0	UNILEVER	530/4
GNL	363/0	UNIGATE	353/0
GUINNESS	426/0	UND GRP	450/0
HIMMERSH A	775/0	WELLCOME	475/0
HANSON	186/0	WHTBRD 1K	341/4
HARRIS C	745/0	WILLIAMS	276/0
HARRIER SID	660/0	WILLIS HN	229/2
HILLSIDE	270/0	WINPEY GE	286/0

World Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-QR	PREV-YR
FT 30 ORD	1708.4	1706.5	1707.9	1707.9
FT 500 SHR	1186.0	1184.9	1169.5	1182.7
FT ALL SHR	78.07	76.51	1076.15	1076.15
FT GOV SEC	87.18	86.81	87.30	87.30
FT GOLD MN	190.4	190.9	190.2	161.9
FT MINES F	61.69	650.04	653.25	653.25
FT OIL	1976.5	1983.0	1978.9	1978.9
FT WLD DLR	142.90	142.34	141.17	141.17
FT WLD STG	125.66	125.02	123.81	123.81
FT WLD LOC	130.95	130.70	129.77	129.77

London Stock Market Report

U.K. STOCKS OFF HIGHS IN QUIET AFTERNOON

London, April 4, Reuter - Share prices were off the day's highs in quiet afternoon business with a lower trend on Wall Street weighing on sentiment.

CONSOLIDATED GOLD FIELDS TARGET OF AVERAGE ANNUAL EARNINGS GROWTH OF OVER 20 PCT LIFTED THE STOCK. ANALYSTS SAY THE GOAL, ALTHOUGH AMBITIOUS, IS ACHIEVABLE.

CONS GOLD WAS 25P STRONGER AT 1348. MANY DEALERS EXPECT A HIGHER BID FROM PREDATOR MINORCO NEXT WEEK.

DEALERS SAID THE MARKET WAS RESILIENT TO NEWS OF A LARGER THAN EXPECTED 1.2 BILLION STG FALL IN U.K. OFFICIAL RESERVES. AT 1510 THE FTSE INDEX WAS 5.1 UP AT 2,084.

DEALERS SAID THE FALL IN RESERVES WAS WORRYING IN VIEW OF WARNINGS BY U.K. CHANCELLOR NIGEL LAWSON THAT HE IS PREPARED TO RAISE INTEREST RATES IF STERLING COMES UNDER HEAVY PRESSURE.

HOWEVER, MOST MARKET PARTICIPANTS FEEL LAWSON WILL BE CAUTIOUS ABOUT RAISING INTEREST RATES IN THE IMMEDIATE TERM.

DEALERS NOTED THREE MONTH INTERBANK STG WAS 1/16 POINT EASIER AT 13-1/16 13 THIS AFTERNOON, DESPITE THIS MORNING'S DATA.

STRONG FIGURES FROM STEELTELY YESTERDAY BOOSTED THE BUILDING MATERIALS AND CONSTRUCTION SECTOR. REDLAND WAS 10P UP AT 536. BLUE CIRCLE 19P HIGHER AT 568 AND TARMAC 15P STRONGER AT 318.

Precious Metals

LONDON, APRIL 4, REUTER - GOLD GULLION HELD AROUND ITS HIGHS DURING ROUTINE LATE TRADING, SUPPORTED BY STEADIER NEW YORK LEVELS AND A SOFTER DOLLAR, DEALERS SAID.

GOLD CLOSED AT 386.30/386.80 DLRS AN OUNCE, ABOVE OPENING AND PREVIOUS CLOSING LEVELS OF 385.70/386.20 AND 384.50/385.00 DLRS RESPECTIVELY.

TRADING WAS FEATURELESS THROUGHOUT THE PRECIOUS METALS SECTOR TODAY, WITH PRICES MOSTLY HOLDING IN NARROW, SLIGHTLY STEADIER RANGES, LACKING FRESH INCENTIVES. PALLADIUM, STRONG RECENTLY, EASED ON PROFITTAKING PROMPTED BY THE MOVE ABOVE 160 DLRS AN OUNCE, CLOSING SOME FOUR DLRS LOWER AT 157/158 DLRS.

London Money Market

LONDON, APRIL 4, REUTER - MONEY MARKET INTEREST RATES REMAINED SLIGHTLY EASIER IN QUIET LATE TRADE AS STERLING HELD EARLIER GAINS PROMPTED BY CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER NIGEL LAWSON'S COMMENTS ON THE CURRENCY.

LAWSON PLEDGED IN A TELEVISION INTERVIEW THIS MORNING TO CONSIDER RAISING INTEREST RATES IF STERLING CAME UNDER SERIOUS PRESSURE.

MONEY RATES EASED AROUND 1/16 POINT IN PERIOD RATES AS THE POUND FIRMED IN RESPONSE TO THE REMARKS, DEALERS SAID. THE BENCHMARK THREE MONTH STERLING INTERBANK RATE CLOSED AROUND 1/16 EASIER AT 13-1/16 13.

Foreign Exchange

DLR	STG	DNK	FFR
1.7020/30	1.7020/30	1,8705/15	6,3100/30
		3,1830/70	10,7290/405
DHK 1.8563/8743	3,179/193	2,7845/7876	25,94/97
FFR 6,304/316	10,7315/7495	336.88/337.5	FIX
SFR 1,6378/6588	2,7845/7876	87.42/52	NOON
HFL 2,111	3,593	112,775	33.44
ECU 1,11164	.6534/42	2,08209	7,02054
SCR 1,29229	0.770275	2,44462	8,24352
YEN 130.85/95	222.77/223.08		CLOSE
SDR RATE	03/04/1989	OTHERS	04/04/1989

London					New York					Arab Times				
BORTHWICK	39/0	39/0	HICKSON	251/0	252/0	RYAN INTL	139/0	140/0	GEN DYNICS	54/0	54/2	MOTOROLA	42/2	42/2
BR ARROW	116/0	116/0	HIGGS HIL	388/0	388/0	SAGA GRP	303/0	303/0	GEN ELECT	45/0	45/1	SEAGULL EN	17/5	17/5
BR ASSETS	79/4	79/4	HMBRD CTY	51/0	51/0	SALE TLM	214/0	214/0	GEN HOST	9/0	8/7	SEALED AIR	44/2	44/2
BR VITA	255/0	255/0	HMT SPIN	162/0	163/0	SAVILLE G	52/0	52/0	GEN INSTR	29/2	29/2	MURPHY OIL	35/4	35/7
BRENT CHE	157/0	156/0	HOLMES PR	107/0	107/0	SAVORY M	865/0	855/0	GEN MOTORS	59/0	59/2	NAT INTERG	17/5	17/5
BRENT MCR	351/0	350/0	HODEN GP	156/4	157/0	SCOT HERI	183/0	184/0	GEN SIGNAL	41/2	41/3	NBI CORP	22/6	22/6
BRITAIN SE	205/0	205/0	HVY GROUP	106/4	110/0	SCOT I.T.	145/4	145/4	GENCOP	16/7	17/7	NEWMONT GLD	38/5	38/7
BRITANNIC	393/0	392/0	ICE.FZ.FD	346/0	346/0	SCOT MEF	163/4	164/0	ADBT LAB	53/7	54/0	NEW ENG EL	15/6	15/6
BRITTON E	382/0	382/0	INDPDNT W	14/0	14/0	SCOT MFG	121/0	121/0	ADY MICRO	8/5	8/5	NEWELL CO	34/0	34/1
BRYANT	157/0	156/0	INDUSTRY	107/0	107/0	SCOT.MFG.I	103/4	103/4	GENE PHAT-80	36/7	36/7	NIKON	55/7	55/7
BRIDON	195/0	196/0	INT.BR	297/0	298/0	SCOT.NAT C	46/0	46/0	GEORGI-PAC	42/3	42/4	NIKON	29/0	29/0
BROWN SH	349/0	348/0	INT.BR	120/0	121/0	SCOT.NAT I	96/4	96/4	GEORGE	10/1	10/1	NIKON	10/5	10/5
BRYANT GP														

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 1989

International Bond Ratings

WASHINGTON The IMF interim committee welcomed proposals by several countries designed to strengthen international debt strategy and place greater emphasis on debt and debt service reductions. (EWSW 1453) It later called for a decision by year-end on a new issue of the fund's resources. London Mitsubishi Estate Co. Ltd. said France is still in favour of a 100 mln min. dril live year equity warrant Eurobond with an indicated coupon of 5-1/8 to 10-1/8 pct. Nomura International said, lead manager (XLFB 0842) London Toyota Motor Finance (Netherlands) BV is issuing a 10-1/4 pct 200 mln dril Eurobond due May 15, 1991 and priced at 100.85. Nomura International said, lead manager (XLFB 0842) London Uchio Inc. is issuing a 10-1/4 mln dril live year equity warrant bond with an indicated coupon of 5-1/4 pct, lead manager London Hoya Corp. is issuing a 50 mln dril four-year equity warrant bond with an indicated coupon of 4-5/8 pct, lead manager London Japanesse Finance Corporation for Municipal Enterprises is issuing a 150 mln dril 10-year Eurobond with a coupon of 9-1/8 pct and priced at 101-1/2, lead manager IBI International said, confirming earlier reports. (XLFB 0852) London McDonalds Restaurants of Canada Ltd. is issuing an 11-1/2 pct 100 mln Canadian dril bond due May 5, 1994 and priced at 101-87, lead manager RBC Dominion said. (XLFB 0826)

BOMBAY

	PR-CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GNFC	46	45-50	45	NAT INDEX	371.56	376.69
ACI	305	316	317	GRASIM	116.50	116	116	NIPPON	36	37
ALU NIS	--	--	--	GSFC	153.75	152.50	157.50	NOCIL	885	875
ART FAB	--	--	--	GUJ ALKL	71.50	71	68	OSMIAL AGRO	92	91
ASHOK LEY	71.50	71	72	HERO HONDA	29.50	29.50	30	PEICO	24.50	24
ATLAS COP	215	215	215.25	HIND CIBA	940	930	920	POND	207.50	205
AUTO CORP	50	50	49	HIND COCOA	117.50	116.25	113.75	PRES AUTO	53	54
BAJAJ AUTO	79	78	79	HIND LEVER	84.50	85	82	RAMBAXY	127.50	127.50
BAR RATON	365	360	357.50	HIND MOTOR	43.75	44	44.25	RAY WOOD	74	75
BK BOND	149	152	147	HOECHST	840	830	810	RELIANCE	141.50	141
BLOW PLAST	--	--	--	IND ORG	33	34	35	SESA GOA	47	46
BOR DYE	138.50	138	143.50	IND RAYON	88.50	87.50	88	SHELL HALL	--	--
BURR WEL	215	205	210	INDROL	317.50	318.75	315	SRIK CEM	--	--
CANSHARE	--	--	--	INGERSOLL	395	380	380	SRIK FIR	87.50	82
CEN ENKA	2700	2675	2670	ITC	64	62	62	SIEMENS	81	79
CEN SPG	1770	1780	1780	JK SYN	75	74	75	SKF	2640	2620
COLGATE	360	356.25	360	KIN ENGG	197.50	190	195	SPIC	59	58.50
CROMT GR	825	825	840	KIR CMM	82.50	77.50	78.25	ST MILLS	260	250
DCM	16.50	14.50	14.50	KSB PUMPS	367	355	367	TATA CHEM	121.50	120
DEEP FERT	32.50	32	31	L A T	102	102	100.50	TATA OIL	72.50	70
DUNLOP	78	78	82	LIPTON	75	75	75	TATA POW	325	325
EI HOTELS	52.50	55	55	MAC RUSSEL	90	87.50	92.50	TELECO	775	777.50
ESCORTS	64	63.50	64.50	MAD COATS	94	94	96.50	THAPP AGRO	--	--
ESKAYE	138.75	138.75	135	MANINDRA	97.50	96	96	TISCO	127.50	126.50
ESSAR SPG	25	25	24	MAS SHARE	16	15.75	15.75	VAM ORG	169	168
FOOD SPL	195	195	190	MICO	657.50	650	630	VARELI	27.50	27.50
FORBES	59	58	60	MILKFOOD	250	245	255	VOLTA	705	695
GAR POLY	78.75	77.50	76.50	WODI	102.50	102.50	100	WINCO	26.50	26
GE SHIPPING	42.35	41.50	40.15	MRF LTD	440	450	425	ZENITH	66	64
GLINDIA	93.50	93.50	91	NUK IRON	104	102	101	ZUARI AGRO	67.50	68.75

FRANKFURT

	STOCK	LAST PR-CLOSE	STOCK	LAST PR-CLOSE
AEG	210.1	213.0	AJINOMOTO	2790
ALLIANZ VR	1695.0	1697.0	AKAI ELEC	735
BAIDENMERK	184.5	186.0	AKOI	1460
BAASF	297.2	298.9	ASAMI GLS	2330
BAYER	301.0	302.0	ASAMI OPT	870
BAYER HYP	372.0	369.0	BANK TOKYO	1720
BAYER VER	377.5	378.0	BRIDGESTON	1530
BBC	446.5	447.0	CANON	1630
BAF	490.5	500.0	CASIO COMP	1380
BH	515.0	516.5	CHUGAI PHAR	1650
COMMERZBK	242.5	243.5	CITIZEN W	1050
CONTI GUNK	269.0	250.5	D-ICHI KAN	3370
DATNER BEN	477.0	477.3	DAI NIP IK	907
DEUTSC BMK	528.0	529.5	DAI NIP PT	2340
DLW	473.0	473.5	DAI NIP SC	985
DRESDNER B	320.0	313.5	DAI NIP TO	950
DT BACOP	172.5	176.0	DAICEL	1010
FAZ INDEN	582.75	581.57	DAIMA H	1990
FEZ INDEN	361.5	342.5	DAIMA SEC	2340
GOLDSCHMID	394.0	396.0	DAIMA SEC	2330
HARPER	454.0	456.0	DAIMA SEC	1850
HOLCHST AG	303.7	306.8	DAISY NAG	2030
HODESK	248.5	250.0	DAISY NAG	1440
HORTEN	226.0	225.0	DAIJI BANK	3450
HUSSEIN HLD	699.8	697.0	DAIJI BANK	3450
KALI SALZ	215.0	221.0	DAIJI BANK	2220
KARSTADT	428.5	431.0	DAIJI BANK	1550
KAUFHOF	414.0	417.0	DAIJI BANK	1970
KLOECK H	174.0	176.0	DAIJI BANK	2320
KLOECK H	174.0	177.3	DAIJI BANK	3430
LINDE	775.0	772.0	DAIJI BANK	3700
LUFTHANSA	171.0	164.5	JAPAN AIR	16400
MAN	273.5	270.0	JAPAN AIR	16500
MANNESMAN	258.5	243.0	JAPAN AIR	16500
MERCEDES	526.0	531.0	JAPAN AIR	16500
METALLGES	420.0	418.0	JAPAN AIR	16500
NIXDORF PF	297.8	300.2	JAPAN AIR	16500
NOKSY NYD	46.30	47.10	JAPAN AIR	16500
PHILIP KOM	717.5	718.5	JAPAN AIR	16500
POSCHE	718.0	717.5	JAPAN AIR	16500
PREUSSAG	253.5	255.5	JAPAN AIR	16500
PUMA	304.0	302.3	JAPAN AIR	16500
RHEINMETAL	472.5	472.0	JAPAN AIR	16500
RME	247.0	248.0	JAPAN AIR	16500
RME P	221.2	222.5	JAPAN AIR	16500
SALAMANDER	316.0	325.0	JAPAN AIR	16500
SCHERING	603.5	599.0	JAPAN AIR	16500
SEL	304.0	305.0	JAPAN AIR	16500
SIEMENS	527.0	530.4	JAPAN AIR	16500
THYSSEN	237.2	240.5	JAPAN AIR	16500
VARTA	365.0	358.5	JAPAN AIR	16500
VEBA	291.0	294.5	JAPAN AIR	16500
WEV	169.2	170.2	JAPAN AIR	16500
VOVSKAEN	349.0	352.5	JAPAN AIR	16500

TOKYO Stock Market Report

TOKYO STOCKS RISE, NIKKEI AT FIFTH RECORD CLOSE

TOKYO, APRIL 4, REUTER - SHARE PRICES CONTINUED THEIR RELENTLESS SURGE IN HEAVY TURNOVER, PUSHING THE KEY NIKKEI INDEX TO ITS FIFTH STRAIGHT RECORD CLOSE AND SIXTH STRAIGHT RISE. THIS LATEST RALLY HAS LIFTED THE INDEX BY A TOTAL OF 1,799.85 POINTS, OR 5.71 PCT.

A STRONGER YEN AND LOWER OIL PRICES OVERNIGHT HELPED ERASE LINGERING CONCERN THAT INFLATIONARY PRESSURE AND INTEREST RATE RISES WOULD ARRIVE IN JAPAN SOON, BROKERS SAID.

THE 225-SHARE NIKKEI INDEX JUMPED 270.16 POINTS, OR 0.82 PCT, TO A RECORD CLOSING 33,372.25, AFTER HITTING A TRADED PEAK OF 33,340.30 JUST BEFORE THE CLOSE.

THE NIKKEI SURGED 205.39 POINTS TO THE PREVIOUS RECORD CLOSE OF 33,042.07 ON MONDAY, WHEN IT ALSO HIT THE PREVIOUS TRADED PEAK OF 33,077.08.

"THE SENTIMENT IS THAT WE MAY BE SEEING A RETURN OF THE TRIPLE MERIT ARGUMENT -- THE PEAKING OUT OF THE DOLLAR, INTEREST RATES AND OIL PRICES," SAID MIKE HORIUCHI, A MARKET ANALYST AT MERRILL LYNCH JAPAN INC.

"IT'S PRETTY MUCH A TRIPLE MERIT PLAY," HE SAID.

INTEREST-RATE SENSITIVE LARGE CAPITAL ISSUES, MAINLY STEELS, SHIPBUILDERS AND CONSTRUCTIONS, GARNERED STRONG BUYING ATTENTION, ESPECIALLY AMONG INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS.

LARGE CAPITALS ARE CONSIDERED SENSITIVE TO INTEREST RATE CHANGES BECAUSE THEY ARE BURDENED BY HEAVY DEBT AND ARE A FAVOURITE OF BIG INVESTORS SINCE THEY ARE EASY TO TRADE IN LARGE NUMBERS. HEAVY BUYING OF THESE STOCKS BROUGHT VOLUME LEVELS UP TO 1.7 BILLION SHARES FROM 1.4 BILLION ON MONDAY.

INSTITUTIONS HAVE BEEN SIDELINED THROUGH MOST OF THE RALLY, WHILE INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN THE MAIN PLAYERS, AND THE FACT THAT THE FORMER STEPPED UP BUYING TODAY AND ON MONDAY IS ENCOURAGING, BROKERS SAID.

"INSTITUTIONS WERE LOOKING FOR SOME REASSURANCE FROM THE G-7 (GROUP OF SEVEN INDUSTRIAL NATIONS)," SAID ONE ANALYST.

Hong Kong Stock Market Report

HONG KONG, APRIL 4, REUTER - HONG KONG STOCKS SURPRISED MANY PLAYERS BY SHRUGGING OFF PRE-HOLIDAY LETHARGY AND STAGING A LATE REBOLD TO END HIGHER IN THIN TURNOVER, BROKERS SAID.

"FOREIGN INSTITUTIONAL BUYING WAS MAINLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REBOLD," A LOCAL BROKER SAID, ADDING "IT FOCUSED ON A FEW ISSUES, PARTICULARLY ELECTRIC AND GAS."

THE HANG SENG INDEX ENDED 4.71 POINTS HIGHER AT 2,991.

US confident on world's economic performance

WASHINGTON, April 4. (Reuters): The United States voiced satisfaction yesterday with the world's economic performance and the ability of major nations to curb a potentially destabilising rise of the dollar.

But European monetary sources said Washington may be less pleased with a lukewarm response to its new initiative to slash the Third World's crippling debt mountain.

European officials continued privately to express their scepticism with the feasibility of the US proposals which envisage the use of International Monetary Fund and World Bank funds to help reduce developing nation debt.

US Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady said in a speech to the IMF's policy-making interim committee in Washington, "regarding global economic activity, we find ourselves in a better situation than most of us expected a year ago."

Brady added he saw no serious acceleration of inflation in the United States or

other countries. The United States was also succeeding in bringing down its huge current account deficit.

Outlook

But the IMF itself was more cautious about the problem of rising prices. The fund's semi-annual world economic outlook published yesterday said the world economy could only continue expanding if inflation were controlled and global trade imbalances reduced.

"Policymakers should be prepared to take additional steps should inflation fail to moderate as envisaged," it said.

The IMF also warned that the Washington administration's budget forecasts were optimistic. There was a risk that the US fiscal deficit might not fall much over the medium term.

In a statement released after eight hours of talks outside Washington on Sunday, the Group of Seven leading industrial nations—the US, Japan, West Germany, Britain, France, Italy and Canada—made clear they were determined to bring down

the dollar by intervention on foreign exchange markets.

A senior US monetary official said, "the reaction of the markets (to the G-7 statement) has been positive."

While Brady expressed his satisfaction with the decline in the US external deficits he was more worried about European trade imbalances. "The basic trend in Europe evident last year give us some concern," he said.

Stoltenberg also issued a veiled criticism of the United States when he urged countries with what he called excessively large budget deficits to cut them.

G-7 finance ministers and central bank chiefs broadly welcomed the US debt initiative during Sunday's talks, but some European nations had injected cautionary provisos which officials said watered down

the original plan. "We are very sceptical. This raises more questions than answers," one European central banker said yesterday.

One major problem for the Europeans, and especially West Germany, is the idea that IMF and World Bank funds be used to help debtor nations pay their interest bills.

Proposal

Rather than agreeing to this proposal outright, the G-7 said simply that the idea should be examined further.

The European central banker added, "the plan has to be studied in a lot more detail. We are not prepared to give subsidies."

The president of the World Bank, Barber Conable, as well as the G-10 group of industrial nations, also only gave guarded backing to the US debt proposals.

Asked if he was happy with the plan, Conable said, "It is fairly general and quite appropriate. We are going to be working on it in the next couple of days."

Drop in oil income has affected GCC economies

DOHA, April 4. (OPECNA): The drop in oil revenues over the past two years had drastically affected economic growth in the Gulf Co-operation Council countries (GCC).

However, the oil sector in these countries is still contributing to their GDP, according to a study by the Bahrain-based international bank.

The report said that oil contributed 20 per cent to the GDP of Bahrain, Saudi Arabia (28 per cent) and more than 35 per cent in other GCC member states of Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

It added that economic activity in Kuwait increased in 1988 following the ceasefire in the Gulf war as Kuwaiti GDP recorded a two per cent growth as compared to five per cent a year earlier and 15.6 per cent in 1986.

Growth

The United Arab Emirates' GDP growth rate reached seven per cent in 1988 compared to nine per cent a year earlier, while Qatar's GDP recorded a two per cent growth last year against 1.7 per cent in 1987 and 18.5 per cent in 1986.

Saudi Arabia's GDP, the report noted, increased 4.3 per cent last year compared to 3.1 per cent a year earlier and 13.4 per cent in 1986.

The report said that based on projections that the Arabian light crude is to reach an average price of \$18 a barrel this year, the GDP of Saudi Arabia would record a five per cent growth rate, Kuwait (three per cent), UAE (four per cent), Oman (three per cent), Bahrain (two per cent) and Qatar (1.5 per cent).

Gulf Air to borrow \$208m to buy airliners

Bahrain, April 4. (Reuters): Gulf Air will sign a \$208 million loan with a syndicate of international banks to buy four Boeing 767-300 airliners, a senior banker said today.

Stephen Fullenkamp, general manager of Chase Manhattan in Bahrain, said the 12-year loan would be priced at 50 basis points over the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) for the first eight years and 60 basis points for the remaining four.

Lead managers for the loan, which will be signed on Wednesday, include Chase Manhattan, the Jordan-based Arab Bank Limited and Kuwait Investment Corporation.

A Gulf Air spokesman said the four extended-range airliners would be delivered between April and June.

Plans

Plans for the carrier to begin flights to three new destinations—Singapore, Kuala Lumpur and Sydney—later in 1989 were being finalised, he added.

Gulf Air is owned by the governments of Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

Foreign investment in Hollywood reaches new heights

HOLLYWOOD, California, April 4. (AP): Foreign investors are moving through this town as though it were a giant swap meet, with Australia's Qintex Group offering \$1 billion for United Artists and Japan's Sony Corp. browsing for a similar property.

Never before has overseas fascination in the entertainment industry reached such a feverish level, as large and small studios are now changing hands at the rate of one a month.

Sparked by the prospects of a deregulated European television market, advances in entertainment technology world-wide and a favourable exchange rate, companies and investors from many countries are taking a keen interest in Hollywood.

In addition to Friday's move by Qintex, British broadcaster Television South PLC acquired television producer MTM Enterprises for \$310 million in July.

Australian businessman Alan Saffron

Money to strengthen IMF resources

Third World to get \$4.5b Japanese loan

WASHINGTON, April 4. (UPI): Japan will make available \$4.5 billion to facilitate developing countries' debt reduction within the framework of the US Brady plan. Japan's Central Bank Governor Satoshi Sumita said yesterday.

"I would like to announce that the Export-Import Bank of Japan will make available up to \$4.5 billion over the next few years on a case-by-case basis" for developing countries' debt reduction programmes in concert with the International Monetary Fund, Sumita said.

The governor of the Bank of Japan made his announcement at the afternoon session of the IMF's interim committee, the fund's main advisory body.

In the morning session, Japan, West Germany and Great Britain advised the United States to put its deficit ridden fiscal house in order.

"Those countries that continue to have large budget deficits do neither themselves nor anyone else any favours," said British Finance Minister Nigel Lawson, who was joined in his criticisms, among others, by Sumita and West German Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg.

Mexican Finance Minister

Sumita did not provide details of how would the Japanese proposal be applied.

IMF sources said the fund's resources would be strengthened by the Japanese money, which allow to finance greater debt reductions operations, but indicated the IMF does not yet have full details of the plan.

Support

Sumita also expressed support for an increase in IMF's resources, and for an increase in Japan's quota and voting power.

The Japanese stance came close to that of the developing countries, which yesterday reiterated their demand for an increase in the IMF's quotas—its capital—and a new issue of Special Drawing Rights, its accounting and reserve unit, reiterated by Brazilian Finance Minister Malson da Nobrega.

"Japan believes that it is imperative that the fund has enhanced financial resources to enable it to continue to play its important role adequately," Sumita said.

Treasury sources said that debt to banks could be cut 20 to 25 per cent. The most likely candidates for much operations are Mexico and Venezuela.

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EVENTS

ARAB TIMES, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 1989

VIDEO CORNER

Of implausible twins and flimsy plots

By Gall Seery

If you can believe that scientists could make one child from six fathers and one mother, and then resist telling everyone about it; that twins can track each other by telepathy, and that a "split embryo" could result in opposites, then you are probably also willing to believe that Arnold Schwarzenegger delivers his lines in a convincing manner and is a sentient life form.

The film is *Twins*, and is roughly a series of musical interludes loosely based on Schwarzenegger's muscles, bound together by a somewhat flimsy plot. The even flimsier sub-plot is clearly added later in an attempt to reinforce the structure a little.

Not only that, but it's little more than a vehicle for Schwarzenegger and Danny DeVito. We will probably never be told what fiendish imagination first thought up pairing these two as



De Vito and Schwarzenegger in Twins.

twin brothers. Even DeVito doesn't really manage to lift this film very far above the average.

Schwarzenegger plays Julius Benedict, a genetically engi-

nered superman, with DeVito playing Vince, who was created out of "the bits that were left." Julius is good, intelligent and strong, and has lived all his life on a desert island with a weird professor whose main purpose in the film is to provide an explanation for why the muscle man talks with a German accent. On Julius' 35th birthday he learns he has a twin brother and heads off to find him. Predictably he's in jail.

I am prepared to admit there are some neat touches, like when Schwarzenegger pauses by a Rambo poster and laughs at Stallone's puny muscles. There are also quite effective shots showing how the two twins, so different to look at, think alike.

However, it doesn't really get the film very far. It plods along, determinedly implausible, as Vince and Julius search for their mother, and throws in plenty of opportunities for

Julius to flex his muscles and take his shirt off.

Vince has been running a stolen car racket, and he bites off a little more than he can chew when he unwittingly gets involved in industrial espionage. Julius helps him out—and please bear in mind that it took no less than four writers to put this little lot together.

I am a great Danny DeVito fan, ... he is not at his best and only manages to make sitting through the film bearable, but the best moments are when he is on screen. It is contrived, occasionally amusing and wildly clichéd and unlikely, and comes in as something of a cross between Frankenstein's monster, *Bonanza*, and *Starkey* and *Hutch*.

The only two original ideas in the film seem to have been the pairing of DeVito and Schwarzenegger, and giving DeVito a pony tail. Here the imagination stops.

Good girl, bad girl

By Shaun Seekins

MYSTIC Pizza runs against the grain of recent "teen" movies, it is a well-acted, well written film that places its emphasis on three female characters at the crossroads of life, a romantic adult comedy with some spicy moments.

Join (Lili Taylor), Daisy (Julia Roberts) and Kat (Annabeth Gish) are three spirited young waitresses spending one final summer serving up pizza and pulchritude in Mystic, Connecticut. Jojo feels destined to marry her longtime boyfriend, but is apprehensive at the thought of becoming a fisherman's wife. Her friend Daisy does not even have that

prospect to look forward to. A sexy, ambitious flirt in pursuit of "the good life", she knows that if she stays in Mystic, she will never be regarded as much more than the town's "bad girl".

Ironically, her much more conventional younger sister, Kat, who is heading for Yale on a scholarship could make use of some of Daisy's expertise with men. Her carefully planned life is in danger of being derailed by her love for a married man.

In other hands this could be a depressing story, but director Donald Petrie has fashioned some delicately blended characters who project enough inner strength and humour to offset their surface vulnerabilities.

The performances by relatively unknown actors are all first-rate, particularly that of Julia Roberts who manages to be both raunchy and sincere at the same time.

Mystic Pizza has all the ingredients — story, direction and performances.

Day One is a good new best-seller recounting the American experiments to perfect the atomic bomb during WW2. Several new cartoons for children are available including *Revenge of the Mysterious from Mars*.

The above films are by courtesy of VFL, Fintas/Farwaniya; Video Naaf, Salhiya, Tel: 2432809; and Video Club, Tel: 574372.

Theatre awards presented

KUWAIT, April 4. (KUNA): The first International Theatre Week ended in Kuwait yesterday. The closing ceremony was attended by Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Al Mubarak Al Hamad Al Sabah.

Sheikh Jaber distributed awards to the winners of the best play, actors, actresses, writer, producer and designer. Awards were also presented by Hamad Al Roumi, the assistant undersecretary for culture, press and censorship at the Ministry of Information.

Information Undersecretary Abdul Aziz Jasbar and a large number of Kuwaitis also attended.



Sheikh Jaber presenting an award to one of the winners.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus

Florida Straits

Starring: Raul Julia, Farid Ward

Al Sabaya

Inner Space

Starring: Dennis Quaid

Al Hisara

El'l Ami (Arabic)

Starring: Ibtihal Shahin,

Mohsin Mohiuddin

Drive-In

Amber Al Maut (Arabic)

Starring: Noor Al Shareef,

Afif Shaub

Al Firdous

Soorma Bhopali (Hindi)

Starring: Jagdeep, Aruna Irani

Fakheer Open-Air

Ram Lakhan (Hindi)

Starring: Anil Kapoor,

Jackie Shroff

Al Jaleeb

Night of the Creeps

Al Fakheer

Al Nashlaat, Al Fatimah (Arabic)

Al Jalsa

Dragon Bruce Lee II

Grassida

Al Khoomah (Arabic)

Ahmadi Drive-In

Al Duniya Al Jinnah

Yamama (Arabic)

Salishkot

Aparas (Bengali)

Kuwait

Al Alamiya Pharmacy

Jandoi Bldg, Fahd Al Salem St.

Al Mojil Pharmacy

Mojil Bldg, Abdulrahman Al Mubarak St.

Hawalli and Nagra

Al Qatani Pharmacy

Beirut St

Salimya and Rumaisiya

Al Markazia Pharmacy

Asfour Bldg, Omar Bin Aas St

Fakheer and Ahmadi

Al Imaan Pharmacy

Makkah St.

Khatib

Al Hayat Pharmacy

Al Zein Bldg, Ibrahim Bin Adham St.

Jahra

Al Khalid Pharmacy

Opp. Co-operative Society

PRAYERS

Fajr 4:11 am

Zuhr 11:51

Asr 3:23 pm

Magrib 6:10

Isha 7:28

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait

Al Alamiya Pharmacy

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Al Mojil Pharmacy

Mojil Bldg, Abdulrahman Al Mubarak St.

Hawalli and Nagra

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Khatib

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Opp. Co-operative Society

WEDNESDAY 9:30-1:00 4:30-9:00

THURSDAY 9:30-1:00 4:30-9:00

DEMONSTRATION

PORCELAIN PAINTING - CRYSTAL ENGRAVING

STILL TWO DAYS

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A blessed month for the faithful

Fasting: worship by abstention

FASTING is an important duty enjoined on all Muslims who have attained the age of puberty. It is indeed the fourth of the five main duties which are commonly called "The Pillars of Islam."

The Arabic term which refers to this duty means linguistically "to refrain". It has come to denote, in the Islamic context, to refrain from doing anything which invalidates the fast, from the break of dawn till sunset, accompanied by one's intention to fast that day.

Its great value

Numerous traditions of the Prophet (PBUH) have been quoted which explain the great value of fasting as a form of worship.

Abu Hurairah quotes the Prophet (PBUH) as saying: "Allah says: every action a human being does belongs to him except fasting, which is done for My sake, and I reward it accordingly. Fasting is a protective shield (against sins). When any of you fasts, he should refrain from obscenity, shouting loud and every unbecoming behaviour. If anyone insults him or quarrels with him, let him answer by saying: I am fasting (twice). By Him who holds Muhammad's (PBUH) soul in His hand, the mouth smell of a fasting person according to Allah, of better fragrance than musk. A fasting person has two occasions to feel happy: he feels happy when he ends his fast, and he feels happy when he meets his Lord for having fasted." (Related by Ahmad, Muslim and Al Nassae.) The same tradition is also reported by Al-Bukhari and Abu Dawood with minor variations of wording.

Abdullah ibn Amr quotes the Prophet (PBUH) as saying: "Fasting and the Holy Qura'n intercede with Allah on the Day of Judgment on behalf of their man. Fasting says: My Lord, I have deprived him of his food and pleasures during the day, so please accept my intercession on his behalf.

The Holy Qura'n says I have deprived him of his sleep at night, so please accept my intercession on his behalf. Allah accepts their intercession." (Related by Ahmad.)

Abu Umamah reported that he went to the Prophet (PBUH) and said: "Prescribe for me something which helps me, if I fulfill it, to be admitted into Heaven." The Prophet (PBUH) said: "I recommend you to fast, for fasting is superior to all actions." I asked him a second time later, and he said: "I recommend you to fast." (Related by Ahmad Al Nassae and others.)



Fasting in Ramadan

Fasting is subdivided into compulsory and voluntary. The compulsory is further subdivided into: fasting in Ramadan, fasting in atonement for sins, and fasting in fulfillment of vows.

To fast during the days of the month Ramadan is compulsory as evidence by the Holy Qura'n, the Sunnah and the unanimity of the Muslim nation. In the Holy Qura'n, we read: "Believers, fasting has been ordained for you as it has been ordained for those before you, so that you may remain God-fearing." (2:183) Allah also says in the Holy Qura'n: "It was in the month of Ramadan that the Holy Qura'n was revealed, a guidance for mankind and a self-evident proof of that guidance and a standard to distinguish right from wrong. Hence, whoever of you is present in that month shall fast throughout it." (2:185)

In the Sunnah, we have the Prophet's (PBUH) pronouncement: "Islam is built on five essential duties: the declaration that there is no deity but Allah and that Muhammad (PBUH) is Allah's messenger, regular attendance to prayers, payment of zakah, fasting in Ramadan and pilgrimage to Makkah."

Talhah ibn Ubaidullah, a companion of the Prophet (PBUH), reports that a man

came to the Prophet (PBUH) and said: "Messenger of Allah, tell me what has Allah imposed on me of fasting?" The Prophet (PBUH) answered: "The month of Ramadan." The man asked: "Anything more than that?" The Prophet (PBUH) said: "No, unless you wish to volunteer."

The Muslim nation is unanimous that fasting in Ramadan is a duty which is essentially known to all as being part of Islam. He who denies it is a non-believer. Fasting was imposed as a duty on all Muslims on Monday, the second day of the month of Sha'aban in the second year after the Prophet's (PBUH) emigration to Madinah.

A blessed month

Abu Hurairah quotes the Prophet (PBUH) as saying when Ramadan approached: "You are about to receive a blessed month which you are required to fast. During this month, the gates of Heaven are open and the gates of Hell are closed; Satan is chained. It includes a night which is far better than thousand months and he who is deprived of the benefit of that night is certainly deprived." (Related by Ahmad, Al Nassae and Al Baihaqi.)

Abu Hurairah quotes the Prophet (PBUH) as saying: "He who fasts in the month of Ramadan out of faith and seeking Allah's pleasure is

forgiven all his past sins." (Related by Ahmad and others.)

Abu Hurairah also quotes the Prophet (PBUH) as saying: "He who does not fast even one day in Ramadan for no legitimate exemption which Allah has granted him, cannot atone for it by fasting for the rest of time, even if he would do that." (Related by Abu Dawood, Ibn Majah and others.)

Al Thahabi states that the believers in Islam are unanimous that he who does not fast in Ramadan when he is healthy commits a much graver crime than adultery and drunkenness. Indeed, he is believed to be a non-Muslim.

Its essentials

There are two essential things for fasting to be valid.

1. To refrain from anything which invalidates fasting, from the break of dawn till sunset. Allah says in the Holy Qura'n: "You may eat and drink until you can discern the white line of dawn against the blackness of the night. Then, resume the fast till night" (2:187).

2. Intention. Allah says in the Holy Qura'n: "They have been ordered only to worship Allah making their submission pure to Him alone." The Prophet (PBUH) says: "Actions are but by intention and every man shall have but that which he intended." It is necessary to have the intention to fast before dawn on each night of the month of Ramadan. Hafsa, a wife of the Prophet (PBUH), quotes him as saying: "He who has not made up his mind to fast before dawn invalidates his fasting." (Related by Ahmad and others.)

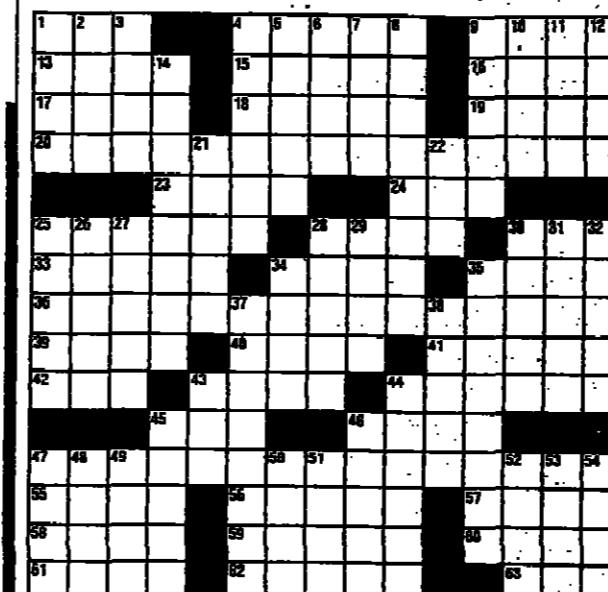
It is proper to have the intention to fast at any time during the night. There is no need to utter that intention verbally, because intention is a mental decision. It means only making up one's mind to do what is necessary in obedience to Allah and to earn his pleasure. Thus, if a person eats his suhoor at night to prepare himself for fasting, his action constitutes an intention to fast.

If a person has made up his mind to abstain throughout the day from anything which invalidates fasting, his resolve is an intention, although he may not wish to eat before fasting.

Many scholars agree that for voluntary fasting, intention may be made after sunrise, provided that the person concerned has not eaten or drunk anything.

There is no fasting in the world that could parallel the fasting of Islam: for it is an irrevocable truth ordained by God: "O mankind! ye are in poor relation to Allah and Allah! He is the Absolute Owner of Praise."

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Dry, as wine
- 4 Andebone
- 9 Pianist Myra
- 13 French state
- 15 — Ben Jonson!"
- 16 — want for Christmas..."
- 17 Farm plot
- 18 Preterid
- 19 "For Brutus — honourable man"
- 20 Woodward's 1957 Oscar winner, with "The"
- 23 Oriental weight
- 24 — body meet a..."
- 25 Comply
- 28 Arrears
- 30 For each
- 33 Actor Michael
- 34 Kitchen wrap
- 35 Saarinen
- 36 Brecht-Weill
- 39 With 28 Down, memorable actress
- 40 River of Ireland
- 41 Hold
- 42 Connective
- 43 Author Ferber
- 44 Fall blooms
- 45 Total

DOWN

- 46 "Un bel di," for one
- 47 Nursery group, with "The"
- 55 Estuaries
- 56 Emulate a ham
- 57 Race loser of fable
- 58 Consequently
- 59 Fortification
- 60 Merganser
- 61 Retain
- 62 Mail unit
- 63 Writer Rand
- 64 Greek fabulist
- 65 Rose essence
- 66 Tough trip
- 67 Put on the payroll
- 68 Pad
- 69 Israeli port
- 70 If not
- 71 "March" —
- 72 Quo non lead-in
- 73 "Lady" of song
- 74 Frequently, poetically
- 75 Bone cavities
- 76 Maine Senator William —
- 77 Healed

28 See 39 Across

29 — Kleine Nachtmusik"

30 Golfer Calvin

31 Trial's companion

32 Horses of a certain color

33 House plant

35 Inscriptions of a sort

37 They vend

38 Actor Davis

44 Nigerian city

44 Dahl or Francis

45 Greek fabulist

46 Rose essence

47 Tough trip

48 Put on the payroll

49 Pad

50 — a man with..."

51 Brouhaha

52 — Camera"

53 Joel or Zane

54 Stitched

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1 As South, vulnerable, you hold: ♦ 73 ♦ AQJ84 ♦ AJ93 ♦ J4 Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What do you respond?

A. You are in slam territory, if you have a fit. Since you have a good five-card major, jump to three hearts. Partner's next bid should reveal the hand's potential.

Q.2 As South, vulnerable, you hold: ♦ KJ6 ♦ K1063 ♦ K8 ♦ AK95 The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East 1 ♦ Pass 1 NT Pass 3 ♦ Pass ?

What do you bid now?

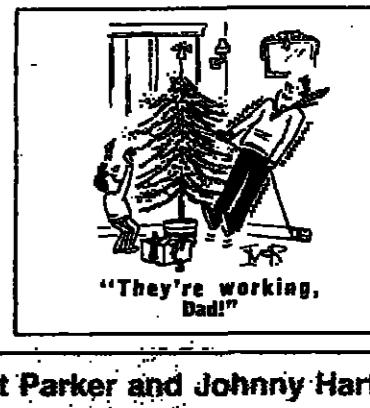
A. —In support of hearts you have an absolute maximum—all prime controls, good trump support and a ruffing value. A bid of four hearts does not do your hand justice. Correct is to cue-bid your cheapest first-round control; in this case, four clubs.

Q.3 As South, vulnerable, you hold: ♦ KJ6 ♦ K1063 ♦ K8 ♦ AK95 The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East 1 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Dbl Pass ?

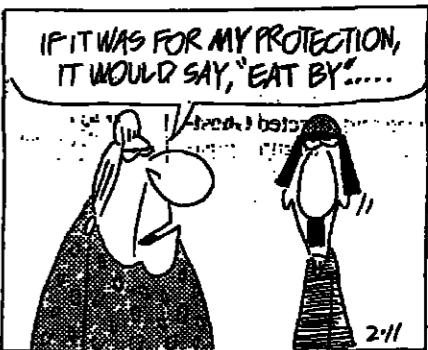
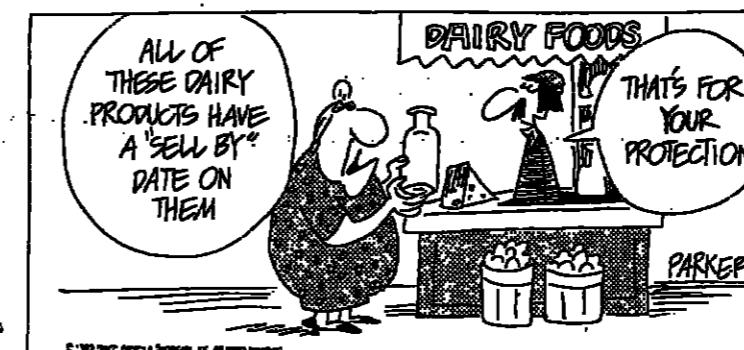
What action do you take?

A. —In the words of the young sailor in the heat of battle: "I seen my duty and I done it." Partner has asked you to bid a suit. You know he has at least four spades, but you can't be sure how many diamonds he holds. Bid two spades. Think of it as supporting his suit. And there is an advantage to keeping the bidding as low as possible with such a miser-able hand.



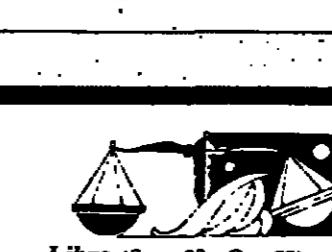
By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart

THE WIZARD OF ID



By Johnny Hart

B.C.



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You should not bemoan your fate, just make the best of what you have. If you use a bit more common sense you will avoid putting a foot wrong. Your lucky numbers are 51 and 36. You will have to be careful about your weight. Be polite.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You are all too liable to act on impulse today. Do not believe all you hear. Avoid spending too much time on the phone, particularly if you are not paying. Be polite.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You will have a surprise and it will not be an altogether pleasant one. Make sure you do keep a promise you have made. Avoid getting into a muddle. Be sincere.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

This is going to be a busy day for you so do not waste time. Do not be afraid to do something interesting but routine chores must not be neglected. Avoid being angry with yourself or others. Be of good cheer.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You should look forward to the future rather than back to the past and make the most of the present. Do all you can to stay tidy. Do not expect everyone to share your opinion. Be generous.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You will be able to put into practice something that you have long considered. You will be more lucky than you have been of late but do not rely upon luck to get you out of trouble. Be responsive.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will be able to do something you have long wanted to do. Avoid being in too great a hurry. Keep calm when dealing with a rather awkward person. Be reliable.



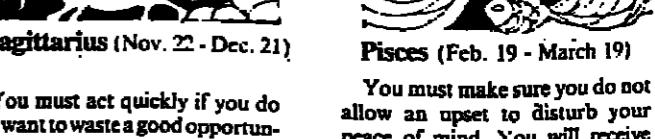
Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

You will feel rather unsure of yourself at first but soon you will regain your usual confidence. Take what you hear with a pinch of salt. Support a friend going through a difficult stage. Be helpful.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You must act quickly if you do not want to waste a good opportunity. You will have to deal with someone who is not in a good mood and should not lose your temper. Take better care of your health. Be moderate.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You must make sure you do not allow an upset to disturb your peace of mind. You will receive some news which will not be as good as you had hoped nor as bad as it could

James Garner back in the saddle The last real man in Hollywood

By Judy Byrne



James Garner taking part in the Bob Hope British Golf Classic.



He doesn't need the money. He blushes at the fame. But an incredible 60-year-old James Garner is one of the most dependable and permanent professionals of the movie business. And for his latest film, he plays Wild West lawman Wyatt Earp.

Garner as Bret Maverick (above) and (below) holding up the Purple Heart Medal presented to him in Los Angeles.

Lucille honoured
HOLLYWOOD, (UPI): Lucille Ball is this year's recipient of the Eastman second century award from the Directors Guild of America for her continuing contribution to the development of young talent in the entertainment industry.

The veteran comedian was to accept the award at the third annual Eastman Kodak second century award banquet April 24 at the Beverly Hills hotel. Previous winners include Steven Spielberg, Burton Reynolds and film executive David Puttnam.

When told of the honour, Ball said, "seeing new people get started has always been exciting for me. Working with them and watching them 'take off' on their own is the real prize."

Sheedy stars

Principal production has started on the suspense drama 'Fear' starring Ally Sheedy for Kobritz-O'Bannon productions and Vestron pictures.

'Fear,' which co-stars Lauren Hutton, Michael O'Keefe and Dina Merrill, is being produced by Richard Kobritz and written and directed by Rockne S. O'Bannon.

'Fear' is a story of a successful young woman with psychic powers. She writes books about the phenomenon and aids police authorities in aborting crimes.

Busters wraps

Principal photography on 'Ghostbusters 2' has wrapped for stars Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd, Sigourney Weaver, Harold Ramis and Rick Moranis.

The comedy returns all the stars of the original 1984 comedy hit, along with the return of supporting players Annie Potts and Ernie Hudson.

Ivan Reitman, who also produced and directed 'Ghostbusters,' has begun post-production processes on the film at Columbia Pictures.

New sitcom

Jon Cryer and Lainie Kazan will co-star in the 'Famous Teddy Z,' a new half-hour sitcom for CBS-TV scheduled for broadcast next season.

Cryer, best known for his roles in 'Pretty in Pink' and 'Hiding Out,' plays Teddy Zalkowski, the only member of the mailroom of a major talent agency who doesn't want to be an agent.

Kazan plays Teddy Z's overprotective mother who wants her son to work in the family bakery. The cast includes Alex Rocco, Milton Selzer, Jane Sibbett and John Del Regno.

Los Angeles: Hard-rockers Guns n' Roses, who had been asked to headline an AIDS benefit concert for the gay men's health crisis, have been dropped from the June 8 Radio City music hall event in New York.

A spokeswoman for the band, which currently has two albums in Billboard Magazine's Top 10, said the GMHC had a "negative reaction to the lyrical content of one of the band's songs."

"Song on the band's recent EP 'G N'R' has references to homosexuals and blacks that many have found offensive."

Montreal honours film

MONTRÉAL, (UPI): 'Bethune' the making of a hero, starring Donald Sutherland as the legendary Canadian surgeon Dr Norman Bethune, will make its world premiere Aug 24 at the opening of the 1989 Montreal world film festival.

The selection of 'Bethune,' a joint Canadian, Chinese, and French production, was announced at a news conference by festival President Serge Losique.

Bethune practised in Montreal before pioneering battlefield surgery during the Spanish civil war and with the communist armies of Mao Tse-Tung in China. He died of blood poisoning in 1939 after cutting his finger while operating on a Chinese soldier.

The film was shot in China, Canada, and Spain. Filming took more than three years.

The 1989 festival will also devote a day to the national film board of Canada which is celebrating its 50th anniversary.

HE gunned his way through the 'Sixties as 'Maverick'. He punched through the 'Seventies as 'tough sleuth Rockford'. And for his latest film, he plays wild Western lawman Wyatt Earp.

No wonder they call James Garner the last real man in Hollywood.

But 60-year-old Garner, who measures six feet four inches from his socks to his still-thick curly hair, laughs at the label. "I'm really the biggest show business chicken since Daffy Duck," he says.

His record says otherwise.

Garner confesses: "I've collected a lot of bruises and sprains over the years. I'm probably Hollywood's walking miracle. I have had nine knee operations but I've stopped counting the injuries I've had to my back, ribs and shoulders. One knee is terrible and the other is worse."

On the record are two broken kneecaps and two smashed ribs, a chipped vertebra and endless strains, sprains, torn ligaments, dislocated discs, pulled muscles and tendons.

Then there is the painful arthritis that stems from Garner's days as a top-ranking college athlete and football player and a recurring back problem.

He has to be the only man in movie-making history to have broken a tooth eating spaghetti on the set.

A lesser man with such a large fortune at his disposal would long ago have hung up his spurs, put a "the end" sign over the front gate, and settled down to enjoying the fruits of the oil investments which have made Garner a multi-millionaire with a film production company and the vice presidency of a bank to his credit.

Instead, he's been back in the saddle to shoot 'Son of the Gun' with just the worst of the rough stuff going to the stuntman he's worked with for 25 years.

"He's become a great friend," says Garner. "But after all that time, even he's beginning to feel the strain."

"Neither of us is as young or as resilient as we used to be. So I try to rely more upon humour than action."

Garner gives few interviews. He hates promoting movies, avoids parties and picture-takers, and expects his public relations people to keep the Press at bay.

"Well, would you like to sit and talk about yourself time after time?" he asks. "I hate talking about myself. It finds it boring."

In fact, his life has been anything but boring. It is the sort of stuff movie scripts are made of.

He was only four years old when his mother died, seven when his father remarried. He says: "My stepmother was a bitch. She made me wear a dress and called my Louise. It meant that as a child I was

taunted and laughed at. 'The fear of people laughing at me is still a painful reality.'

There was physical as well as psychological cruelty, too. "She made us cut willow switches which she then used to beat us. My father left her when he found out what she was doing."

At 15, during World War Two, Garner left school and joined the US marines. But no sooner had he enlisted than the Germans surrendered so he stayed in the service only a year. He went back to school again, but was kicked out at 18 for truancy.

Acting had still not entered his head.

He drifted from job to job — labourer, oil field worker, logger. About 50 jobs on, he ended up in Los Angeles laying carpets for his father's firm. He had stuck with nothing for more than a few months.

But he was always looking for something better. He says: "I had been to the Shell Oil Company in Los Angeles for a job interview and was driving back when I saw a guy I used to know had an office.

"I'd been working in a filling station and he'd been a waiter when I knew him but now he was a producer."

On an impulse he went in. The friend offered him a part in the Cain Mutiny Court Martial on Broadway.

James Garner had stumbled into show business. And 40 odd films later — including Grand Prix, The Great Escape, and The Americanization of Emily, Savorama, and Support Your Local Sheriff — he is still working well.

The Great Escape, the classic war film of the actual mass escape from Stalag Luft 3 in 1944, co-starred Steve McQueen. It was McQueen, since killed by cancer, that the film instantly became a big time. Garner's up-grading took longer.

But he is happy with the way the pace of his career has gone since.

When he went for his first audition at Columbia, knees knocking with nervousness, the producer told him: "I don't know what you have been doing, Son, but you ought to go right back to it because you'll never make an actor."

"Nobody tells me I can't do something," was his reaction. Determination stoked to fever pitch, he kept trying and three years later was starring in Maverick, instantly becoming a household name: "Without time for my knees to tremble. Because when you are doing 39 shows a year, there's no time," he explains.

Garner believes his late start gave him a more mature perspective on Hollywood. He is first to laugh at its absurdities. And he has never set much store on being Number One at the box office. "I have always wanted a job that lasts," he says.

"My idea was and still is longevity. Where can you go from Number One but down?"

always wanted to do. As soon as I finish the present series of *Howards Way* we will be touring the country with *Cleopatra*.

Kate explains: "I come from a family who have always produced theatre and I love being involved with the managing side as well as acting. It is worth more to me than a huge wage packet."

And the money side of things doesn't bother me the way people may think, you know. I always seem to play glamourous wonderfully well-dressed people, certainly on television."

At home Kate likes to shop around in jeans and sweaters and doesn't need a lot of expensive props.

The Richmond cottage may be small but it is pretty, simply and tastefully furnished.

Kate doesn't drink, smoke or eat meat. She likes plants and gardening and above all, the theatre. She sets TV as a means of keeping her name and face in the public eye and of financing her theatrical ambitions.

But she says her *Dynasty* experience was one not to be missed. And she destroys a few myths concerning her relationship with Joan Collins. "Joan is one of the girls, isn't she?" says Kate rather surprisingly.

"Everyone expected that we would flare our nostrils at each other all the time off screen as well as on. But Joan and I have a lot in common."

"What we actually did was to gossip a lot."

Location filming of *Howards Way* begins in Malta at the end of April. It is then that Kate feels she will really become a part of the top-rated boat people drama. The series will be televised in the autumn.

"Just perfect darling," says Kate. "It is always so good for the theatre box office if you are on telly."

It's Chevy Chase, of course, the only movie star with a trio of repeating characters going for him at one time: Clark Griswold in the National Lampoon Vacations series, L.M. Fletch in the Fletch pictures and Ty Webb in the Caddy Shack comedies.

The personable, talented Chase seemed surprised when it was brought to his attention that this is indeed a rarity. He loves the 'Vacation' and 'Fletch' films, but appears to be determined he will never star in a third Caddy Shack.

"I like Fletch and Griswold," he said. "They are totally different guys. And I love them both."

Chase has signed a five-picture exclusive deal with Warner Bros, but this does not mean he will be taking on any heavy dramatic roles.

"I've learned over the last few years that there is a core group of fans who like to see whatever is intrinsic about me," he said. "They don't want to see me do things they don't expect."

Like Fletch, Chase is a bit cynical. Of his good fortune to have three hit characters making him richer and famous, he shakes his head and laughs.

"It's all business," he said.

Life without Dynasty

By Hilary Bonner

Kate O'Mara talks about the advantages and disadvantages of life after leaving *Dynasty*.



Kate O'Mara: a dramatic cut in salary has meant a totally different lifestyle for the 49-year-old actress

ger. "It was while appearing in Lear that Peter Woodward talked to me about an actors' theatre group, and I decided just to plunge right in."

It was then she got the offer of a part in King Lear in England and decided she couldn't sit around in Los Angeles any longer.

And so most of the money she

SLEEPLESSNESS COULD HAVE MANY CAUSES

QUESTION: I'm 74 years old and good health, but I never seem to get a good night's sleep and lie awake no matter how tired I get. Can you explain what's wrong?

ANSWER: First, take heart that you're not alone. Insomnia is the most common sleep disturbance. Second, since insomnia itself is a symptom, not a diagnosis, take some time to think about what might be causing your problem.

The cause might be something as simple as your age. The older you get, the more likely you are to sleep less efficiently. You wake up in the night, arise early in the morning. Other common drugs that can result in sleep problems include caffeine, nicotine, anti-hypertensives, anti-depressants, oral contraceptives, steroids, anti-convulsants, levodopa and psychostimulants.

What should you do about your insomnia? Even if you think you know what the problem is, it's best to consult your doctor. The two of you can work out a solution that's best for you.

On the other hand, your insomnia may be the result of stress. The death of a loved one, a change in jobs, even travel, can all temporarily disrupt your sleep habits. This type of insomnia usually lasts no more than three weeks. If your sleep troubles continue longer than that, you may have a medical

problem. Depression is often accompanied by insomnia. Older people who get depressed may find themselves waking at the crack of dawn. Manic or anxiety disorders also can cause insomnia.

Drugs and alcohol may have an effect on sleep, too. A nip of alcohol before bedtime, which many people feel helps sleep, may actually result in your awakening early in the morning. Other common drugs that can result in sleep problems include caffeine, nicotine, anti-hypertensives, anti-depressants, oral contraceptives, steroids, anti-convulsants, levodopa and psychostimulants.

What should you do about your insomnia? Even if you think you know what the problem is, it's best to consult your doctor. The two of you can work out a solution that's best for you.

One other note: Sleeping pills are not the answer to insomnia. Though a short course of medication does work in some specific instances, in the long run, sleeping pills are not an effective solution, you will not only solve your sleep problem, but lessen the

1989 TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES, INC.

First East bloc film about AIDS

By Michael Wise

PRAGUE, (Reuters): AIDS is used as a metaphor for moral decay and sloth in Czechoslovakia in a new film by once-banned filmmaker Vera Chytilova.

A splotch of blood is depicted on a poster outside the cinema in Prague's Wenceslas Square where *A Tainted Horseplay*, said to be the first film in the East bloc about AIDS, had its premiere this month. The poster describes the film as "a tragicomedy of three friends fatally threatened by AIDS."

"For me it is a film about threat and menace," said Chytilova.

The three male protagonists go through a whirl of sexual antics, sleeping with one another's girlfriends and scenes of corruption and intellectual dishonesty until one comes down with the AIDS virus.

"What can you do except have fun in this corrupted jungle?" asks one of the men, voicing a resigned attitude common among many of his compatriots, who have focused on private pursuits since their hopes of political involvement were dashed by the 1989 Soviet-led invasion.

Czechoslovakia has long had liberal attitudes to sex. "It used to be said that when there was a blackout, children would be born nine months later. A certain darkness can cause many things," Chytilova said of the invasion's impact.

"We are finding out that there is not enough space (here) for the development of personality and this leads to moral deformations," she said in an interview.

"People cannot really apply their talents. Certainly one has internal freedom but it is the freedom in decision-making that's important. One should be able to decide one's own destiny."

In *A Tainted Horseplay* moral decline and apathy affect much more than just the sexual realm.

A bookkeeper takes bribes to ignore graft, a theatre director bows to censorship and a communist party candidate member, echoing party chief Milos Jakes, presses his colleagues to work harder while offering little in return.

"It's not only Mr Jakes but other people who say the same thing," Chytilova, 60, said. "They've been telling us that for decades. We all know we should work harder but we work less because we underestimate the meaning of work."

"We don't see the results. We see irresponsibility and we don't see people who make errors being punished. So in a sense everything is allowed, everything is possible."

Chytilova wears oversized spectacles on a face of beauty recalling her early work as a fashion model. She was one of the most innovative figures to emerge from the so-called new wave of Czechoslovak film in the 1960s, alongside Oscar-winning Jiri Menzel and Milos Forman.

Chytilova was barred from filmmaking for six years after 1968 because her previous films were regarded as promoting the Prague spring reform movement.

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PASSPORT No. Y 580922 in the name of Miss Adina Bonnie Soares, Indian, lost in Maidean Hawaii. Finder please. Tel. Yolka, 4830114, 8 am - 5 pm or inform the Indian embassy.

(AT3-46724-3)

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Lendl shoots for Grand Slam

KEY BISCAYNE, Florida, April 4. (UPI): Ivan Lendl wants to win four tournaments this year.

These tournaments are the Australian Open, French Open, Wimbledon, and the US Open. Lendl is off to a good start on that agenda, having won in Australia.

He also has victories in Scottsdale, Ariz., and the Lipton International Players Championships. He won the Lipton in a walkover over Thomas Muster, who suffered ligament damage in his left knee in a freak automobile accident Friday night.

In place of the Muster-Lendl match, Lipton promoters had Lendl play an exhibition match against Jakob Hlasek Sunday. Hlasek defeated Lendl 6-3, 6-4.

With 76 career Grand Prix titles, Lendl now gauges his success on his performance in the Grand Slam events. Victories in other tournaments are considered welcome additions to his pre-season goals.

Well
"I did well in Australia, that's enough until the French," Lendl said this week. "There are two groups of tournaments, Grand Slams and the rest. I'd rather lose here (at the Lipton) than in the French. I want to win, but if I don't, I'm not going to lose any sleep over it."

Chances are Lendl would have won the Lipton tournament. He did not lose set through the semifinals, and while Muster was playing well, Lendl's game has been terrific so far this year.

He has a 19-1 record this year, 18-0 on hardcourts, and regained his No. 1 ranking after winning in Australia.

"I just think the guy's a better all-around player today than he has been," Curren said of Lendl. "He's beatable, but he's just really on his game."

One reason for Lendl's fast start is his health. In 1988, he had a stress fracture in his foot, and chronic shoulder problems that led to surgery on his right shoulder after the US Open, where he lost to Mats Wilander in the final.

Ljubojevic leads in world chess

BARCELONA, Spain, April 4. (AP): Ljubomir Ljubojevic of Yugoslavia led the standings in the three-week-long World Chess Cup after he defeated Alexander Beliavsky of the Soviet Union in one of three adjourned matches played yesterday.

Valery Salov, Soviet Union, defeated Nigel Short, Britain, and Jesus Nogueiras, Cuba, drew with Viktor Korchnoi, Switzerland, in the two other matches.

Ljubojevic was leading the standings with 3.5 points, followed by Arthur Yusupov, Soviet Union, with three. Johan Hjartarson, Iceland, Robert Hubner, West Germany, Salov, and Yasser Seirawan, United States, with 2.5. Miguel Illescas, Spain, Korchnoi, Nogueiras, Short, and Boris Spassky, France, with two. Beliavsky and Zoltan Ribli, Hungary, with 1.5. Reigning world champion Garry Kasparov, Soviet Union, and Predas Nikolic, Yugoslavia, with one. Rafael Vaganian, Soviet Union with 0.5, and Jonathan Speelman, Britain, with nil.

Gibson gets first hit of 1989

CINCINNATI, April 4. (AP): Kirk Gibson, a world series hero last year, got the first hit of the 1989 Major League Baseball season, lining a run-scoring single in the first inning yesterday at the Los Angeles at Cincinnati game.

The first pitch of the season came from Cincinnati's Danny Jackson and was a ball low-and-outside to Willie Randolph.

Randolph then hit a grounder to third baseman Chris Sabo, who threw wildly for an error. Randolph was awarded second when first baseman Todd Bemzinger interfered on the play.

Randolph moved to third on a groundout and scored when Gibson singled sharply. It was Gibson's first at-bat since hitting his dramatic pinch-home run in game 1 of the world series.

Cincinnati's Paul O'Neill hit the first home run of the season, a three-run shot in the third inning off Tim Belcher.

Top seeds advance in first round

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, South Carolina, April 4. (AP): Catarina Lindqvist, Bettina Fulco, Rafaella Reggi and Sandra Cecchini won their first-round matches yesterday in the Family Circle Magazine Cup tennis tournament at Sea Pines Racquet Club.

Lindqvist, seeded 10th, beat Mary Lou Daniels of the United States, 6-1, 6-1, in less than a half hour. The 11th-seeded Fulco beat Petra Langrova 7-5, 6-3, and 12th-seeded Reggi beat Kimberly Kessaris of the United States, 6-4, 7-6 (7-3). Cecchini beat fellow Italian Laura Lapi 6-7, 5-6.

No. 13 Judith Wiesner of Austria, and No. 14 Terry Phelps of the United States, were eliminated. Mercedes Paz of the United

States, beat Weisner 6-4, 6-3, and Radka Zrubakova of Czechoslovakia beat Phelps 5-7, 6-2.

Cecchini said she took a little lightly and it cost her early in the match. But Lapi eventually ran out of gas.

"She played two good points (in the ninth game of the second set), and I got a little nervous," Cecchini said. "I knew she was tired. She ran more than me during the match."

The turning point of the match was the ninth game of the second set, which lasted about 20 minutes. Each player had won four games and the score went to deuce when Lapi hit a backhand winner down the line and fell

owed with a backhand drop shot for a 5-4 lead. Cecchini went on to sweep the next seven games for the match.

Cecchini said her goal in the \$300,000 tournament is to beat third-seeded Zina Garrison, who has won both previous meetings, both in straight sets.

In order to get to Garrison, Cecchini will have to beat the winner of the Donna Faber-Shaun Stafford match today in the second round. Garrison is not scheduled to play until tomorrow.

Yesterday's final match on the stadium court between unseeded players Faber and Stafford was stopped because of darkness. Faber won the first set 6-4. Stafford won the second 7-5 and the score was tied 3-3 in the third.

International Players Championships still looking for the proper format

KEY BISCAYNE, Florida, April 4. (AP): Five years after its inception, the International Players Championships still is looking for the proper format, a permanent home and ways to attract the top players in tennis.

The problems have been frustrating at times, founder Butch Buchholz said.

"I've gotten Grayver," he said, "and hopefully I'm a lot smarter."

This past weekend's setback, when Thomas Muster suffered a knee injury that forced the cancellation of his final match against Ivan Lendl, was minor compared to other problems the tournament faces.

Moved

The International Players Championships was designed as the Players' tournament, with a 12-player draw, best-of-five men's singles and two weeks of matches to mirror grand slam events. But the format has been the only similarity to Wimbledon or the US Open.

The tournament moved twice in its first two years, and its current home — the international tennis centre — includes

a centre-court stadium consisting of temporary wooden bleachers. This year's champions, Lendl and Gabriela Sabatini, survived a field in which four of the top 10 men and four of the top 10 women were absent.

Jimmy Connors described the tournament as "fair." Lendl said losing a match here would be nothing to lose sleep over.

And many of the 7,500 residents in an unincorporated community on the island of Key Biscayne want the tournament to go somewhere else. That will happen, Buchholz said, unless he is allowed to build a 12,000-seat concrete-and steel stadium (estimated cost \$12 million) on public land.

Seats

Buchholz has a contract with the men's and women's players associations to break ground on a permanent stadium by Dec. 31, 1991.

"We just cannot back off on that," he said. "All of us together feel we need the 12,000 seats. If we can't have the 12,000 seats, the tournament sanction would be pulled from us."

The tournament moved twice in its first two years, and its current home — the international tennis centre — includes

The stadium isn't the only temporary structure at the tennis centre. The press room and hospitality areas are in tents — not the best way to spread enthusiasm for an event with "international" in its name.

"As long as we're in temporary facilities, this event is not going to reach the stature we want it to have," Buchholz said.

If key Biscayne residents and Dade county officials will permit construction of a stadium, player support for the tournament will be "tremendous," Buchholz said. He said a scaled-down format, which will reduce next year's tournament to 10 days and 96 entrants, should also draw more top 10 players because they won't have to comment for two weeks.

Financially, the International Players Championships has made progress. Attendance this year set a record. Buchholz estimates that prize money next year will increase to \$2.6 million from \$2.1 million this year. The event has a long-term sponsor agreement with Thomas J. Lipton Inc. and could make money for the first time in 1990.

Fourteen years later, Graf, 19, is one of only six players in the history of women's tennis to win the Grand Slam and is the No. 1 seed in the \$300,000 17th Annual Family Circle Magazine Cup for the second time.

Eight seed Hana Mandlikova, 27, is on the mend from a hamstring injury that dropped her to 29th in the world rankings last year and needs a strong tournament to break out of her current 20th spot on the list of players.

A comeback is also on the mind of Mandlikova's fellow Czechoslovakian native Regina Marsikova. Marsikova, 30, posted a three-set victory over Andrea Holikova in the FCC qualifying rounds Sunday.

Eligible

For Navratilova, 32, the intervening years have brought 17 Grand Slam titles, including 17 consecutive Wimbledon singles championships, and now an apparent uphill battle to repeat her 1988 tournament victory at Hilton Head.

The 34-year-old Evert, an eight-time winner of the FCC, lost in the finals of the Lipton International Players Championships to Gabriela Sabatini, 17, on Saturday and will not play at Hilton Head. She has said it is her last year on the circuit.

The FCC Clay-Court Tournament boasts the sixth-largest purse on the tour behind the four Grand Slam events — Australian Open, French Open, Wimbledon, and US Open — and the Virginia Slims championship.

Of the eight seeded players in

this year's tournament, four are teenagers, three are in their 20s and one, Navratilova, is in her 30s.

Meanwhile, Martina Navratilova, long the top-ranked women's tennis player, slowly is adjusting to life ranked behind Steffi Graf.

"I'm not saying I'm satisfied with being No. 2," Navratilova said yesterday, the eve of her first match at the 17th Family Circle Cup. "But for God's sake, No. 2 in the world ain't so bad."

"Right now, I get mad. I throw my racket. I get happy when I hit a good shot. So that tells me my heart's still in it. I'll keep playing. I don't care if it's No. 1 or No. 100."

Navratilova, who won nine

tournaments in 1988 but lost the No. 1 ranking to Graf, has been on Hilton Head for the past week preparing for the Clay-Court competition, which pays \$60,000 to the winner.

Czechoslovak Davis Cup hopes dashed

PRAGUE, April 4. (Reuters): Czechoslovakia's Davis Cup hopes against West Germany waned yesterday after their number one Milos Meir was taken to hospital straight from the practice court suffering from back pains.

His appearance for Czechoslovakia in their quarterfinal against West Germany on Friday now seems unlikely, medical sources said after studying X-rays of Meir's back.

Meir, 1988 Olympic champion and winner of the Indian Wells event in California last month, had to pull out at the start of the International Players Championship in Key Biscayne because of a recurring back injury.

He began practising in Prague yesterday morning after two painless days.

But after about an hour of backhand rallies with team-mate Marian Vaclav, he suddenly dropped his racket and left the court stooping with pain, eyewitnesses said.

Eager

"I'm eager to play," he said.

"This year you've got the No. 1 and No. 2 players in the world, so you can't ask for more except maybe for the three and four, and they played last week."

On Saturday, Gabriela Sabatini defeated Chris Evert 6-1, 4-6, 6-2 in the Lipton International Players Championships. They are ranked third and fourth in the world.

The 34-year-old Evert, who is thinking of retiring, told the crowd after the final match that she did not know if she would be back next year.

Asked if she has a timetable for her own retirement, Navratilova hedged.

"I don't know what I will do or when I will do it," she said. "So far I'm still enjoying playing tennis and am doing it very well."

The top eight players seeded in the tournament take the court today. There was one upset in the first day of play, with Radka Zrubakova of Czechoslovakia defeating 14th-seeded Terry Phelps of Larchmont, N.Y.

San Diego to appeal against court ruling

New Zealand presses on with Cup plans

AUCKLAND, April 4. (Reuters): New Zealand's America's Cup boss Michael Fay defied arch-rivals San Diego Yacht Club today, vowing to press ahead with plans to defend sailing's most prestigious trophy despite legal action by the财团.

Hours earlier, San Diego announced it would appeal against a US court ruling stripping the club of the trophy and handing it over to New Zealand's Mercury Bay Boating Club.

Fay, a millionaire banker who chairs the New Zealand challenge, called on San Diego to give up the trophy and said a world championship could be held off Auckland if court room

battles held up a defence of the trophy itself.

Asked what effect San Diego's decision would have on plans for the 1991 defence, Fay told Radio New Zealand: "My initial reaction is that it won't affect them at all ... I think what we'll do is proceed with the plans for a regatta in 1991."

San Diego's commodore Pat Goddard announced yesterday that the club would appeal against the New York Supreme Court ruling that the Californians had violated America's Cup rules dating from the last century when they beat off a Mercury Bay challenge last year.

Transfer

"I think in the short term San Diego are going to have to sign a transfer of the cup over to Mercury Bay as the trustee. Once that happens we can push ahead with planning the next cup," said Fay.

But San Diego have said they will hold on to the trophy while the appeal is heard.

IAAF endorses global anti-doping squads

GOTEBORG, Sweden, April 4. (AP): The Council of the International Amateur Athletics Federation yesterday proposed using international doping-control squads to test athletes anywhere in the world, the national news agency TT reported.

Officials of the International Olympic Committee also have proposed creating such global drug-testing squads.

"There must be four or five strategically placed groups that can leave on a moment's notice," said Arne Ljungquist, Sweden's member of the IAAF Council.

The agency reported that the

congress of the 23-member world governing body will decide on a global anti-doping package including spot checks co-ordinated from the IAAF office in London, TT reported.

"There are immense administrative, practical and economic problems, but we will solve them," Ljungquist said.

He stressed that yesterday's proposal was meant to show how serious the council views the problem.

The size and cost of the operation hasn't been determined, but \$1 million will be allocated for the first year, TT said.

Cameras followed him everywhere

wherever he went since baseball officials announced two weeks ago that he's the subject of a major investigation, reportedly about his gambling.

Rose made one allusion to the trouble that has clouded his last two weeks. A sports illustrated story has said he made betting-related gestures from the Reds' dugout early in the 1987 scoreboard provided intermittent updates on other games. Rose has called the allegation "ridiculous."

"Boy, it's nice to see the scoreboards working," Rose said, breaking into a grin. "Even the auxiliary scoreboards are working today. I'll have to be in the dugout like this."

Rose then stood up and held his arms stiffly at his side, avoiding any gestures. The reporters laughed.

Ticket

I didn't like school that much," Rose said. "I'd come up with a ticket some way."

"Opening day here means so much, not only to me but to the people in the stands. They remember going with their dad who is gone now or their grandpa who is gone now."

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President Bush follows the flight of his pitch during dedication ceremonies for the new horseshoe pit at the White House on April 1.

Silent Fanatic wins Spring Challenge

THE Messiah Beach Laser Club sailed the last two races of the Messiah Beach Hotel Spring Challenge Series on Friday, March 31.

Seven boats enjoyed a fine spring day with light to moderate winds and a slight sea.

Once again, M. Hattemor sailing the fleet it should be done, winning both Races 9 & 10 of the series by convincing margins. In Race 9, he was followed over the line by D. Clark, D. Reeve and P. Berry, respectively.

Race 10 proved to be one of the most interesting held in the series with positions two to six constantly changing as the fleet completed three laps of an Olympic style course. Two relative newcomers to the club, both sailing new boats, demonstrated that in these conditions at least they were able to complete successfully against the established helms. As the finishing line was crossed, only seconds separated the second, third and fourth boats crewed by P. Berry, D. Reeve and I. Smith respectively.

The positions at the end of the series are:

(a) Overall winner — M. Hattemor; Overall Runner-up — D. Clark

(b) Handicap Winner — D. Reeve; Handicap Runner-up — P. Shepherd.

The MBLC will present the prizes for this series of races at a B-B-Q to be held after sunset next Friday at the Messiah Beach Hotel, all MBLC members are cordially invited.

Friday April 7 also sees the start of the next series of race, the "Mad Hatters Ramadan Series," 18 races (weather permitting) to be sailed on Friday and Tuesday afternoons throughout the month. Best 10 results to count. Interested Laser sailors should attend for a helms' briefing at 10 am sharp on Friday.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Boy wins \$225,000

ATHENS. April 4. (Reuters): A three-year-old Greek boy won \$225,000 in the national soccer pools today after predicting the correct outcome of all 13 weekend matches.

His parents, Nikos and Maria Argyridis, told reporters Ilias indicated the correct combinations to them from the pools leaflet, which includes First and Second Division matches.

Italy's upset win

LILLEHAMMER, Norway. April 4. (AP): Sixth-seeded Italy upset top-seeded Switzerland 7-6 in third-round action of the B-pool World Ice Hockey Championship last night.

Switzerland's loss left Norway as the only unbeaten team among the eight countries competing in the B-pool before the fourth round today.

Norway has six points, Switzerland, France, East Germany and Italy four points each and Austria two points. Japan and Denmark have lost all three of their games.

Baseball results

NEW YORK. April 4. (Reuters): Results of Major League baseball games played yesterday.

American League

Baltimore 5 Boston 4 (in 11) Toronto 4 Kansas City 3 Cleveland 2 Milwaukee 1

Oakland A's 3 Seattle 2

National League:

New York 8 St. Louis 4

Cincinnati 6 Los Angeles 4

San Francisco 5 San Diego 3

World Cup tickets

ROME. April 4. (Reuters): Tickets for the 1990 World Cup soccer finals in Italy went on sale abroad for the first time through banks in 22 countries in Europe, South America, the Far East and Saudi Arabia, organisers said.

Half of the 2.6 million tickets available for the June 8 to July 8, 1990 event have been set aside for sale outside Italy through foreign branches of the Banca Nazionale del Lavoro.

The remainder went on sale within Italy last February and most seats for matches in the Rome and Naples stadiums are already sold out.

World Cup marathon

GOTHENBURG, Sweden. April 4. (Reuters): London has been awarded the 1991 World Cup marathon, the International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF) said yesterday.

Conference officials said it would be the first World Cup marathon staged in conjunction with a mass participation race.

Real and Milan have equal chances to win Stage set for European soccer clashes

LONDON, April 4. (AP): Take the flair of Ruud Gullit, the goal-scoring prowess of Marco van Basten and the all-round skills of Frank Rijkaard. Send them on the road against the pace of Hugo Sanchez, an unbeaten team and the deafening, intimidating support of 90,000 fans.

A spicier soccer brew you couldn't hope for and tomorrow's European Champions Cup semifinal between Real Madrid and AC Milan is being built up as exactly that — even before a ball is kicked.

The first leg game in the Spanish capital is being described as the true final by everyone except those connected with Steaua Bucharest and Galatasaray, who meet in the other semifinal of Europe's most prestigious club soccer competition.

Chance

"I feel that both teams have an equal 50 per cent chance, that their technical value is equal," said Milan president Silvio Berlusconi. "Thus luck will make the difference."

Real, Milan Steaua and Galatasaray are among 12 teams who have made the long, arduous journey into the semifinals of the continent's three tournaments.

The round where emotions are at their most intense, nerves are frayed and hopes and ambitions are close to being fulfilled or smashed.

In the Cup Winners Cup, defending champion Mechelen of Belgium hosts Italy's Sampdoria and Barcelona meets Sredetza Sofia. The UEFA Cup pits Diego Maradona's Napoli against West German giants Bayern Munich and VFB Stuttgart against Dynamo Dresden.

While most impartial attention focuses on the activities in Madrid, thousands of Turkish

fans have been flocking to the Romanian border in buses and private cars after Premier Turgut Ozal lifted a \$100 travel tax on trips abroad. Reports said 2,000 ticket-less Turkish fans had been turned back.

Galatasaray is the first Turkish team ever to reach the Championships Cup semifinals after upsetting Monaco in the previous round.

The club said 4,000 fans had applied for tickets for the first leg. "He's an exceptional player, extremely dangerous," Van Basten said. "We hope to score one goal in Madrid. We must think it's a match lasting 180 minutes," he said, referring to the second leg.

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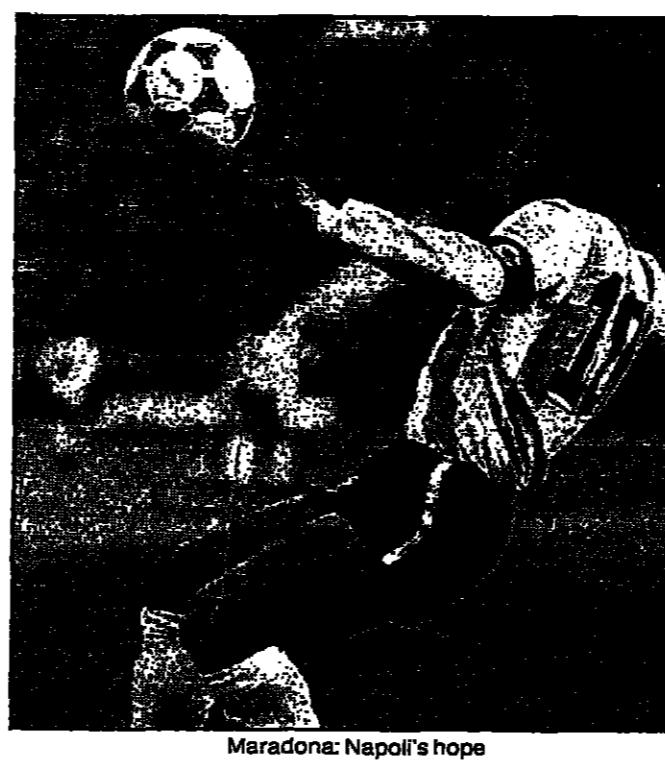
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Galatasaray's chances of coming away with a favourable result have been badly dented by injuries to Metin and Muhammed while Steaua reported a full-strength squad including midfield ace Gheorghe Hagi and striker Marius Lacatus.

Steaua, which won the Championships Cup in 1986, thrashed IFK Goteborg of Sweden 5-1 in the quarterfinals and will start as a strong favourite to reach its second final in four seasons.

But coach Anghel Iordanescu



Maradona: Napoli's hope

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had no hesitation to bat first sending openers Arshad and Nasir to face the new ball attack of Ejaz and Iqbal Jr.

A brisk opening partnership prevailed as 50 runs came off 10 overs. Poor fielding by Starlite helped Kifco to reach 87 in the 15th over, when Arshad was bowled by Shehzad for 45. Maqsood coming in survived an appeal for lbw by Suhail and with Nasir departing later lbw to the former for 37 things changed for Starlite.

Dismissed

Maqsood (20) was dismissed by Badar making Kifco 123 for 3 in 23 overs. However, useful double figures from Shahid (11), Aqueel (13) Rashid (10) Shahid Butt (14) and a defiant 29 from Mansoor enabled Kifco to eventually reach a good total of 227 in 44.4 overs.

Wickets were shared by Badar (3) Qayum (2) Ejaz, Iqbal Jr, Suhail and Shehzad one each for Starlite.

Chasing 228 for victory Starlite met with an early setback when Badar was trapped lbw by Shahid Butt for two with only 12 on the board. The two Iqbal joined forces to put up some respectability taking the total to 46

overs.

Other wickets were shared by Aqueel, Rashid, one each and

Shahid Butt 2.

After the game both teams were introduced to Aziz, commercial vehicles manager of Al Mulla Group.

Jacob Mathew, marketing and advertising manager delivered a brief speech thanking all participating teams, organisers and supporters for their enthusiasm.

Aziz then presented the Al Mulla Mitsubishi Cup to Kifco captain Aqueel Ashraf. Prizes were also distributed to both teams, scores and umpires and members of the Unity organising committee. Riffat had match winning figures of 5.4-1-9-5.

Other wickets were shared by Aqueel, Rashid, one each and

Shahid Butt 2.

At the end of the 25th over, Super Royalty could score 165 runs for the loss of eight wickets, thus conceded the match to New Pak.

Robinson added 21 points and

Mubashar came in and did not stay long as he was unlucky to be run-out.

Then came Mohammed Ali and straight away went for his runs. When the score reached 54-2 Haleem was caught of the bowing off Reza. But then came the terrible movement for Super Royalty as the new batsman Asghar in the company of M. Ali plundered the bowling to all parts of the field and took the score to 126. At this moment Asghar trying to hit the ball misjudged to be caught off Feroze's bowling for 36.

But at the other end M. Ali was

merrier hitting the ball with power. Hameed came in and helped gather 23 runs before he was bowled by Feroze for seven. At last the leather hunt came to a halt for Super Royalty when Mohammed Ali played a tired shot and was caught behind the wicket for a very well made 55 runs. At the end of 25 overs New Pak scored 176 for 5 wickets.

Successful bowlers were Feroze two, Faisal, Saifuddin and Reza one each.

Super Royalty sent in their openers Razzak and Riaz to the bowing of Asghar and Sakhawat. Wayward bowling by the opening bowlers was sprayed to the boundary. Razzak in particular was very severe as he hit Sakhawat for 3 consecutive fours in the first three balls of his first over.

However Asghar bowled a beauty and uprooted the stumps of Riaz and the score was 19.

At the end of the 25th over, Super Royalty could score 165 runs for the loss of eight wickets, thus conceded the match to New Pak.

Hameed was the most successful bowler with three wickets for 22.

Both teams were introduced to Aziz, commercial vehicles manager of Al Mulla Group.

Jacob Mathew, marketing and advertising manager delivered a brief speech thanking all participating teams, organisers and supporters for their enthusiasm.

Aziz then presented the Al Mulla Mitsubishi Cup to Kifco captain Aqueel Ashraf. Prizes were also distributed to both teams, scores and umpires and members of the Unity organising committee.

Riffat had match winning figures of 5.4-1-9-5.

Other wickets were shared by Aqueel, Rashid, one each and

Shahid Butt 2.

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